

Assessment of Citizen Needs and Understanding of the Political System in Haiti

April 2024



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I. Executive Summary

Internews and Pòlité conducted an *Assessment of Citizen Needs and Understanding of the Political System in Haiti* between November 2023 and February 2024. The assessment sought to better understand Haitian's perspectives on and interest in the political system and identify factors that hinder civic participation in eventual Haitian elections. In the report to follow, findings from this assessment are presented and analyzed. The data for the assessment was collected via a survey conducted both online and in person between January 2 and January 30, 2024, across the ten departments of Haiti. The survey aimed to gain insights into citizens' views on Haiti's political system, electoral process, participation levels, societal needs, and access to information. In addition to identifying key factors that may limit civic engagement in upcoming Haitian elections, the analysis to follow also provides actionable insights to inform various Haitian and international actors' decision-making and programming.

Survey Administration

The survey was administered in Haitian Creole using a questionnaire composed of 31 closed-ended questions covering topics related to Haiti's political system, the electoral system, elections, citizens' basic needs and information needs, and civic participation. 16 experienced interviewers underwent training and were assigned to different locations in Haiti for the in-person surveys. They interviewed individuals selected at random from predefined categories, as explained in the methodology section. Categories were designed to ensure equitable representation among people from various regions of the country: those living in rural, urban, or peri-urban areas, various genders, diverse age groups, and different socio-economic backgrounds. In order to reach a wider population, including Haitians with limited mobility (due to disability, age, or security) and those living in rural and peri-urban settings, an online survey with the same questions was distributed through a KoboToolbox¹ link. A total of 2,853 individuals responded to the survey, with 1,167 (41%) responding online and 1,686 (59%) responding in-person.

Notes

¹ KoboToolbox is a suite of tools for field data collection for use in challenging environments. The software is free and open source.

Survey Context

The *Assessment of Citizen Needs and Understanding of the Political System in Haiti* was conducted during a protracted political crisis and increasing violence in Haiti, where most democratic institutions (including the presidency and the parliament) are non-functional, with no elected officials in office since 2020. The last presidential election was held on November 20, 2016, with a participation rate of roughly 20%. The last president was elected with around 600,000 votes in a country with a population of over 11 million, indicating a lack of civic participation.²

Since July 2021, after the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, an interim prime minister, Ariel Henry, has been leading the executive branch without a president, highlighting the acute leadership vacuum. At the time of writing this report, Prime Minister Ariel Henry announced his plan to resign and transfer power to a transitional political council composed of nine representatives of a majority of political parties, civil society organizations, a coalition of political actors, and the private sector. Once established, the transitional council will choose a prime minister, and a new government will be installed. Gang members remain in control of multiple areas of the capital and aim to be included in any solution achieved. No elections have been scheduled, thus continuing to limit citizens' rights to representation and participation in the democratic process.

Despite formally adopting democracy in 1987, Haiti has consistently faced challenges in effectively operationalizing its democratic systems, notably due to corruption, impunity, and failure to respect the Haitian constitution. The country has registered consecutive years of negative economic growth while the economic situation was already dire, leading to fears of famine or other humanitarian crises, with 41% of the population living in multidimensional poverty (UNDP)³. The country is also facing its worst security crisis in years, coupled with a humanitarian crisis that is unfolding as 362,000⁴ people are internally displaced and 4.3 million⁵ are food insecure.

Economic context

The country has experienced negative economic growth for the past five years⁶. Since 2019⁷, there has been no positive economic growth while 41% of the population lives in multidimensional poverty, according to UNDP⁸. The country's leaders have yet to be able to address structural and occasional circumstances affecting economic stability and promote growth. The socio-political instability and volatile security situation have sometimes paralyzed economic activities, forcing some businesses to close.

- 2 "Country Profile: Haiti." IFES Election Guide, <https://www.electionguide.org/countries/id/94/>. Accessed December 10, 2023.
- 3 Human Development Reports. (2023). Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023: Unstacking global poverty. Retrieved from <https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MPI/HTI.pdf> on March 10, 2024.
- 4 International Organization for Migration (IOM). (2024, March 9). Waves of violence storm Port-au-Prince in Haiti further displacing thousands [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int/report/haiti/waves-violence-storm-port-au-prince-haiti-further-displacing-thousands>.
- 5 World Food Programme. (January 2024). Haiti. Retrieved from <https://www.wfp.org/countries/haiti>
- 6 Gary, C. L. (2023, December 29). Avec un PIB négatif (-1.9%), l'économie haïtienne enregistre une nouvelle contraction pour l'année 2023. Le Nouvelliste. Retrieved from <https://lenouvelliste.com/article/246143/avec-un-pib-negatif-1-9-leconomie-haitienne-enregistre-une-nouvelle-contraction-pour-lannee-2023>
- 7 World Bank. (n.d.). DataBank: World Development Indicators. Retrieved from <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>
- 8 Human Development Reports. (2023). Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023: Unstacking global poverty. Retrieved from <https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MPI/HTI.pdf>

Social context

Gangs control a significant part of the West and Artibonite departments, occupying strategic entry zones to different regions, including the capital of Port-au-Prince. Frequent gang wars and kidnappings have caused many casualties and increased the number of internally displaced people (IDP) to 362,000⁹ in 2024. The existing humanitarian crisis in Haiti, where 4.3 million¹⁰ are living with food insecurity, is further complicated by the large number of IDPs. Additionally, a high number of Haitians have fled the country to neighboring countries such as the Dominican Republic, as well as other Latin American countries, the United States, and Canada. Haiti also remains highly vulnerable to natural disasters like hurricanes and earthquakes.

Voter turnout and participation

Voter turnout and citizen participation in the electoral process are indicators of the health and stability of a democracy. One of the three indicators of democratic performance is participation, which includes voter turnout, membership in political parties, and engagement in other civic activities.¹¹ Low voter turnout implies low or non-participation from people with no other means of political participation or influence¹².

In Haiti, election contestations are recurrent. In the country's last election in 2016, 108¹³ political parties were ratified by the electoral council, and 107¹⁴ proposed candidates in the elections. In June 2016, electoral authorities annulled the presidential poll results due to fraud¹⁵. Since the end of the dictatorship in 1986, every election has been met with challenges and disputes¹⁶ except for the 1990 elections¹⁷. Low voter turnout can further exacerbate this phenomenon, as researchers suggest that it can undermine the legitimacy of democracy and the outcome of election^{18 19}.

The reasons for low voter turnout are diverse and include factors such as sociodemographic^{20 21}, economic, and political factors, as well as institutional and individual ones²². These factors can include age, education, barriers to voting, literacy, lack of trust in the process, or loss of faith in the system politically, polarization and socialization, media coverage, etc. According to researchers Harder & Krosnick, "an individual citizen's turnout behavior is a joint function of his or her social location, his or her psychological dispositions, the procedures involved in voting, and events that occur at the time of each election²³." The 2016 Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) study provides a comprehensive list of factors based on empirical evidence that can explain Haiti's low voter turnout²⁴.

- 9 International Organization for Migration (IOM). (2024, March 9). Waves of violence storm Port-au-Prince in Haiti further displacing thousands [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int/report/haiti/waves-violence-storm-port-au-prince-haiti-further-displacing-thousands>
- 10 World Food Programme. (January 2024). Haiti. Retrieved from <https://www.wfp.org/countries/haiti>
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- 12 Lijphart, A. (1998). The problem of low and unequal voter turnout-and what we can do about it. (No. 13).
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- 15 France 24. (2016, June 7). Haiti annuls presidential poll result, sets new election date. Retrieved from <https://www.france24.com/en/20160607-haiti-annuls-presidential-poll-result-sets-new-election-date>
- 16 Bertelsmann Stiftung. (2024). Country Report: Haiti. Retrieved from <https://bti-project.org/en/reports/country-report/HTI>
- 17 Hurbon, L., et al. (2014). Les partis politiques dans la construction de la démocratie en Haïti. International IDEA. Retrieved from <https://www.idea.int/sites/default/files/publications/les-partis-politiques-dans-la-construction-haiti.pdf>
- 18 Cavanagh, T.E., 1981. Changes in American voter turnout. *Political Science Quarterly* 96, 53e65.
- 19 Salisbury, R.H., 1975. Research on political participation. *American Journal of Political Science* 19, 323e341
- 20 Wolfinger, R. E., & Rosenstone, S. J. (1980). *Who Votes?* New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- 21 Blais, A. (2000). *To Vote or Not to Vote? The Merits and Limits of Rational Choice*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.
- 22 Solijonov, A. (2016). Voter turnout trends around the world. Stockholm, Sweden: International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. [PDF document].
- 23 Harder, J., & Krosnick, J. A. (2008). Why do people vote? A psychological analysis of the causes of voter turnout. *Journal of Social Issues*, 64(3), 525-549.
- 24 Solijonov, A. (2016). Voter turnout trends around the world. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. Retrieved from <https://www.idea.int/sites/default/files/publications/voter-turnout-trends-around-the-world.pdf>

II. Summary of Key Findings

Elections

Electoral Participation

- Only 29% of the respondents may vote in the next elections:
- likely to vote (16%); certain to vote (13%).
- 21% of the respondents may vote depending on the security situation. The percentage is 22.20% for women. Security is also the most pressing need identified by respondents (89%).

Voter ID

- 91% of the respondents have a voter ID card.
- Less educated respondents show less interest in getting a voter ID. The respondents who have no interest in getting the voter ID have either no formal education (25%) or have completed primary school (20.83%)
- 64.4% of the respondents think the process to obtain a voter ID is not good, including 30.6% who think it is “not good at all” and 33.8% who think it is “not too good.”

Electoral system

- Less than 2% of the respondents have confidence in how elections are conducted in the country.
- 88.6% of the overall respondents think the way elections are traditionally conducted in Haiti is bad. 61.65% say it is “not good at all,” while 26.95% say it is “not very good.”
- 93% of the respondents do not trust the electoral system.

Democracy

Democracy

- Around 70% of respondents believe in democracy, with 14.51% indicating not believing in democracy at all.
- 48.9% of the respondents believe in democracy as a general concept but not how it is in Haiti.
- 48.76% of the respondents think they have some knowledge or complete knowledge of democracy.

Haitian Political System

Political System

- 49.84% of respondents indicate that they do not understand how the state operates at all.
- Only 32% of the respondents can differentiate between the Jurisdiction of the Court of Cassation and the Superior Council of the Judiciary.
- 66% of the respondents report knowing the three branches of power.

Citizen participation

Citizen Participation

- 54 % of the respondents are not interested in volunteering for a political party or candidate.
- 52% of the respondents are not interested in attending a march, sit-in, demonstration, or protest.
- 35% of the respondents would like to participate in a public consultation, 30.51% are not interested, and about 34% have participated in one before.
- Respondents indicate that the most important factor in evaluating political candidates is their political platform.
- When asked what could motivate them to engage more in civic and political activities, the respondents’ top two responses were: Improvement in security situation (66.46%); and Greater transparency and trustworthy information the government provides (50.75%).

Political Party Affiliation

- 47% of the respondents have no political affiliation or ideology.
- 23% adhere to a political ideology.
- Only 7% are members of a political party.
- 44% of the respondents know someone involved in Haitian politics.

Information Needs

Information Need

- Most people prioritize understanding the government's response to current events or issues as their primary information needs before an election. Radio is the respondents' most popular political and election information source, followed by television and online media.
- Radio is the most trusted source of information about politics and elections.
- Online media is less trusted than print media on political and electoral information.
- Respondents highly value investigative journalism as the most effective way for journalists to provide information about society and politics.
- The respondents also consider educational shows to be an essential information need.

Citizen Needs

Need

- Security: 89.06%; Healthcare services and accessibility: 70.38%; Employment opportunities and job security: 72.49% are respondents' most urgent needs.

III. Assessment Results Summary

The results of the survey indicate a general lack of trust in how elections are conducted in Haiti. People have a negative perception of the electoral system and the process of registering to vote. Yet, the respondents still believe in democracy as a general concept, and most have a voter ID (worth noting here is that this ID is critical to other functions in Haiti, so possession of it does not necessarily indicate willingness or desire to vote). Citizens' most pressing need is security, and in terms of information needs related to politics and elections in the country, they express wanting more reporting and analysis on current affairs. They also indicate the need for more investigative reporting of the current situation and government. Some key findings from the assessment are summarized below:

1. Elections: High voter ID rates and low voting expectations

93% of the respondents expressed having no faith in the electoral system of Haiti. The percentage is almost identical between online (92.55%) and in-person (93.78%) respondents. Out of the ten departments surveyed, in eight of them, more than 90% of the respondents indicated that they did not have faith in the political system; in Grand'Anse, this figure was highest at 99%. Notably, Nord-Ouest has the highest number of people who say they trust the electoral system, at 8%.

When asked whether or not they have a voter ID card, 91% of the respondents said yes. 88.32% of the respondents in rural areas have their voter ID compared to 91.61% in urban areas and 91.02% in peri-urban areas. 94% of the respondents who are certain to vote already have their voter ID. 96.95% of the respondents in Nord-Est have their voter ID, the highest percentage across all departments. Artibonite has the lowest percentage of respondents with a voter ID at 83.82%. Respondents in Artibonite who do not have an ID claim it is primarily due to "other reasons" (8.82%) and access issues (4.04%).

Artibonite is the country's second largest department in both surface area and population.

Only 13.42% of overall respondents are certain to vote in the upcoming elections, and 15.63% are likely to vote. The majority of respondents mentioned they will not vote in the upcoming elections (15.77%), while others said they will never vote (9.50%); are unlikely to vote (20.08%); or will decide depending on the security situation (21.17%). Other factors, such as the distance to the voting center (4.07%), or the weather (0.35%), were also chosen among respondents as factors influencing their likelihood to vote.

Artibonite is the department where most respondents are certain to vote (23.5%), followed by Nippes (22.92%), and Sud-Est (21.92%). While only 19.53% of respondents in Nord-Ouest are certain to vote, another 37.21% are likely to vote, making it the department with the highest percentage of respondents considering voting in the next elections when combining both categories.

Grand'Anse (4.41%), Sud (5.49%), and Nord-Est (6.09%) are the regions with the lowest percentage of respondents who are certain to vote. Even when the percentage of respondents who are only likely to vote is included, those departments' residents are still least likely to vote: Grand'Anse (11.27%); Sud (15.69%), and Nord-Est 14.72%).

A significant majority of the total respondents, 88.6%, think that the traditional way of conducting elections in Haiti is not good. Among them, 61.65% think it is not good, and 26.95% think it is "not too good". 59.13% of in-person respondents said it is not good at all compared to 65.30% online, and 29.18% in-person said it is not too good compared to 23.74% of online respondents, respectively.

The Nord department has the highest percentage of people who think the way elections are conducted is not good at all (75%), followed by Grand'Anse (69.61%) and Ouest (68.45%). At only 6.05%, Nord-Ouest has the highest percentage of respondents who think the way elections are organized is good, including 5.58% who think it is good and 0.47% who think it is very good.

An overwhelming majority, 90.46%, of respondents in the age group 25-34 years think the way elections are conducted in the country is not good, followed by 89.75% in the age group 35-44. No respondents in the age group 64 and older indicated that they thought the way elections are conducted was good. The highest percentage of respondents who think the way elections are conducted is good is the age group 18-24,

but it is still low at 1.52%. The latter might not be representative as this age group has never voted in elections due to being underage in 2016.

Regardless of place of residence, most respondents think the way elections are conducted is not good, and the percentage is almost identical across respondents living in rural (88.07%), urban (88.62%), and peri-urban (88.81%) settings. Slightly more men think the way elections are conducted is not good at 90.09% (59.41% not good at all and 30.68% not too good) compared to 86.95% for women (64.16% not good at all and 22.79% not too good). In terms of the level of education and perception of the way elections are conducted, the percentage of people who think elections are not good is highest among respondents with a Ph.D (94.44%), followed by a Master's degree (93.46%) and bachelor's degree (92.55%). The percentage of respondents who think the way elections are conducted is not good is lowest among people with no formal education, but it is still very high at 80%, and 82.83% for those who attended but did not complete primary education. For participant profile data, please see Attachment 2: Demographic Profile of Survey Respondents.

2. Democracy: Haitian citizens believe in democracy, but not in Haiti's democracy

Around 70% of the respondents believe in democracy as a general concept, including 48.9% who believe in it but not the way it is in Haiti. The percentage of in-person respondents who believe in democracy is 59% compared to 84.92% for online respondents. This discrepancy might be due to

differences in educational level among in-person and online respondents. For participant profile data, please see Attachment 2: Demographic Profile of Survey Respondents.

More respondents in the Ouest department believe in democracy (84.05%), but 60% do not believe in it the way it is in Haiti. Nord-Est has the second highest percentage, with 78% of respondents who believe in democracy, including 54% who do not believe in it the way it is in Haiti. The region with the lowest percentage of people who say they believe in democracy is Nord-Ouest, with 34.42% (23.26% in general and 11.16% yes, but not the way it is in Haiti).

Sud-Est has the highest percentage of respondents who say "never" (10%) and "no" (20%) when asked if they believe in democracy²⁵. Ouest is the region with the most respondents believing in democracy, with 84.05%. Belief in democracy is higher in the age group 25-34 at 76.68% and the age group 35-44 at 72.36%, followed by the age group 18-24 at 71.16%. The lowest percentage is among the age group 65 and older at 44.21%. Among respondents who say they will never trust democracy, 60% are women. Among those who say yes, they believe in democracy, 39% are women. Among those who believe in democracy but not the way it is in Haiti, 52% are men.

55.72% of respondents in rural areas say they believe in democracy in general, while 39.66% do not believe in it the way it is in Haiti. 71.27% of respondents living in cities believe in democracy, and 48.72% do not believe in it the way it is in Haiti.

48.91% of the respondents living in rural areas affirm having some level of understanding of democracy (20.68% understand quite well, 17.52% well, 10.71% very well) compared to 69.77% in urban areas (17.92% understand quite well, 24.18% well, 27.67% very well).

More respondents in Ouest (89%), followed by Nord-Est (71.06%) and Artibonite (70.87%), affirm having some levels of understanding of democracy compared to other departments. Nord-Ouest (31.12%) and Nippes (34.37%) are the departments with the lowest percentage of people expressing some level of understanding of democracy. Respondents from the age group 25-34 indicate having the highest level of understanding of democracy with 75.16%, followed by the age group 35-44 with 70.73%, while the lowest percentage is among the age group 64 and older at 32.63%.

Among the respondents, 63% of women say they understand democracy (Yes, I somewhat understand 18.14%; Yes, I understand 22.05%; Yes, I fully understand 23.01). 70.59% of men say they understand democracy (Yes, I somewhat understand 18.55%; Yes, I understand 25.92%; Yes, I fully understand 26.12%). 66.89% of women believe in democracy, and 49.56% do not believe in it the way it is in Haiti. 72.67% of men believe in democracy, and 48.29% do not believe in it the way it is in Haiti.

When asked if they think politicians can win elections and bring positive change to the country, 37.61% of the respondents said yes, 7.43% said "never", 27.58% said "no", and 27.37% said,

“I don’t know.” Respondents aged 25-34 are the group with the highest percentage of respondents thinking politicians can win elections and bring positive change to the country at 42.40%. The age group 65 and more has the lowest percentage at 24.21%. The 65 and older group is also the group with the highest percentage of people saying “never” when asked if they think politicians can win elections and bring positive change to the country at 14.74%, followed by the 55-64-year-olds at 14.69%. The 55-64-year-olds also have the second lowest percentage of respondents who think politicians can win elections and bring positive change to the country. They have the lowest percentage of respondents who believe in democracy and those who are certain to vote. 43.74% of men think politicians can win elections and bring positive change compared to 30.90% of women respondents. This percentage is higher for respondents living in urban areas (40.40%) than respondents living in rural areas (30.41%). 50.25% of respondents with a bachelor’s degree said yes, compared to 15% of the respondents with no formal education, the category with the lowest percentage of respondents saying yes. The respondents with no formal education also have the lowest percentage of respondents who believe in democracy based on education level (16.11%), and less than 8% of them are certain to vote.

3. Haitian Political System

A majority (49.84%) of all respondents reported that they do not understand how the State operates. Only 32% of the respondents were able to differentiate between the jurisdiction of the Court of Cassation and the Superior Council of the Judiciary. It is important to highlight this as both the Court of Cassation and the Superior Council of the Judiciary are two of the most important entities in the judiciary. The Cassation is the equivalent of a U.S. Supreme Court, and the Superior Council is an entity that can decide who can be judged or not, among other things. The difference among them is significant, and results show a lack of knowledge of the basic foundations of Haiti’s political system.

However, 66% of the respondents reported knowing about the three branches of power. Level of education played a factor in people’s responses to knowing the difference between power branches, as 8.89% and 33.33% of those respondents had either no formal education or just finished primary education, respectively. For respondents who had finished secondary education, the percentage was over 90%. Additionally, there is a noteworthy difference between respondents living in urban areas (71.91%) and rural areas (53.04%).

4. Civic Engagement

Out of all the respondents, 35% expressed interest in participating in a public consultation. 54% of respondents showed no interest in volunteering for a political party or candidate. Similarly, 52% of the respondents were not interested in attending a march, sit-in, demonstration, or protest. Among

respondents, 24.15% living in rural areas responded that they always go to protests, compared to 32.59% living in urban areas. Regarding age and participation in a march or protest, it is the lowest among the age range 18-24 at 23.80% and highest among the age range 35-44 at 33.33%. Again, this may be due to their young age and not having had a chance to be politically involved.

Approximately 47% of the respondents did not have any political affiliation or ideology, while only 7% were members of a political party, with no significant difference by gender.

Motivation to engage in civic and political activities: When asked what could motivate them to engage more in civic and political activities, the respondents listed the following:

1. Improvement in security situation (66.46%)
2. Greater transparency and trustworthy information the government provides (50.75%)
3. Trustworthy leader (44.41%)
4. Increased efforts by politicians and community leaders to reduce corruption and political patronage (40.20%)
5. Increased civil society and media efforts to reduce corruption and political patronage (39.96 %)
6. Policies and actions that have a tangible impact in addressing my community’s needs (34.42%)
7. More accessible information about the country’s issues and political offers from candidates and political parties. (31.09%)
8. Stronger enforcement of laws against voter intimidation

and electoral fraud (29.16%)

9. Education and workshops on civic engagement and political processes (26.92 %)
10. More opportunities for direct involvement in political decision-making (26.01%)
11. More convenient voting processes (e.g., online voting, longer voting hours) (22.29%)
12. Better representation of diverse profiles, views, and interests among people in politics (19.56%)

Tools & Criteria Used to evaluate candidates: In order of popularity, the following are the tools and criteria the respondents use to evaluate candidates:

1. Political Platform (70.07%)
2. Political Party (32.98%)
3. Attend Events (29.55%)
4. Research Channels (27.02%)
5. Other (26.50%)
6. News on TV (24.68%)
7. Word of Mouth (17.49%)
8. Family Upbringing (16.12%)
9. Newspaper Articles (15.21%)
10. Social Media (12.09%)
11. Church Feedback (4.03%)

5. Citizens' most pressing needs

According to respondents, their most urgent needs are: Security 89.06 %; Healthcare services and accessibility 70.38 %; Employment opportunities and job security 72.49%; Food for their families 60.46 %; Quality education and training 59.06 %; Access to clean water and sanitation 55.56%; Transportation and infrastructure 51.10%; Affordable housing 44.37%; Protection against natural disasters 41.25%; Access to credit 35.05%; Political representation and governance 29.27%; Other 21.49%.

91.30% of women respondents identified security as their most pressing need compared to 87.07% of men. 73.3% of women identified employment among their most pressing needs compared to 71.73% of men. Access to healthcare is also a more frequent need among women than men at 73.23% and 67.78%, respectively.

Security is the most pressing need for 90.18% of respondents in urban areas and 88.32% of respondents in rural areas. More respondents in rural areas identified employment opportunities as a pressing need at 75.18% compared to 70.27% for respondents in urban areas. Lack of employment opportunities is traditionally considered a factor behind movements from rural areas to urban areas in Haiti, with rural areas attracting less public and private investments. Public infrastructure is usually scarce, too, which can help explain why more respondents in rural areas identified access to healthcare as a pressing need than respondents in urban areas.

Security is a pressing need for more older respondents than younger ones at 89.37% for the 18-24; 88.1% for the 25-34; 88.11% for the 35-44; 91.3% for the 45-54; 92.66% for the 55-64; and 90.53% for the 65 and older group.

Employment is less frequent as a need among older respondents compared to younger ones at 76.28% for the 18-24 group; 75.26% for the 25-34 group; 72.51% for the 35-44 group; 65.53% for the 45-54 group; 63.28% for the 55-64 group; and 61.05% for the 65 and older group.

6. Citizens' Information Needs

Ahead of a potentially forthcoming election, respondents were asked to choose, among a list of options, what type of information about politics and elections they would need in order to be prepared to vote. Respondents' top priorities were: Social issues and government responses 53.35%; Policies and political agendas of the different political parties 44.37%; Backgrounds and qualifications of political candidates 42.80%; Upcoming election dates and procedures 40.24%; Political rights and citizen participation 38.52%; Details on political reforms and legislation 29.69%; Reports on the current government's performance and achievements 27.97 %; International relations and foreign policy 22.50%.

A similar percentage of women and men identified Information on "social issues and the government response" as the information they need ahead of the elections: 27.95% women and 27.93% men. A higher percentage of respondents in the age group 18-24 are interested in this type of information

compared to other age groups at 33.78%. For other age groups, the percentage is 29.37% for the 25-34 years old; 26.00% for the 35-44 years old; 26.40% for the 45-54 years old; 14.69 % for the 55-64 years old; and 24.21% for the 65 years and older respondents.

Information on policies and political agendas of different parties is a priority information need for 45.68% of men and 42.92% of women. Respondents in the age group 25-34 years are the age group more interested in this kind of information at 47.31%, followed by age group 35-44 years old (45.77%); 18-24 years old (44.78%); 55-64 years old (41.81%); 45-54 years old (38.82%); 65 years and older (23.16%).

41.89% of women and 43.74% of men are interested in information on political candidates' backgrounds and qualifications before the elections. More respondents in urban areas are interested in this information (42.39%) than respondents in rural areas (34.79%). A higher percentage of respondents in the age group 25-34 years is interested in this type of information (44.57%), followed by 35-44 years old (43.83%); 18-24 years old (42.69%); 45-54 years old (40.99%); 55-64 years old (38.42%); and 65 and older (30.53%).

Sources of Information

Most respondents prefer to get political and election information from the radio (71.57%); compared to television (47.14%); and online media (43.88%). Other sources include social media (41.96%); friends and family (29.83%); political meetings and gatherings (23.80%); newspapers and magazines (25.31%); and churches (5.71%). There is almost no difference across genders in preference for radio and television, but 43.07% of women prefer online media compared to 24.61% of men. Preference for radio is slightly higher in rural areas (77.86%) compared to urban areas (71.12%). The difference in preference for television as a source of information is more significant at 27.98% among respondents in rural areas compared to 51.05% of those in urban areas. This can be explained by the lack of access to electricity and the lack of financial means to purchase a television in rural areas, which are predominantly affected by poverty and a lack of economic opportunities. 40.63% of participants prefer online media as a source of information in rural areas compared to 45.87% of people in urban areas. Phone access in rural areas of Haiti is more common than television, and the ease of access to short posts from online media may explain this high percentage in rural areas of Haiti.

Among these sources, radio is the most trusted by the respondents (54.92%), while television is also highly trusted (35.02%). Trust in other sources ranked as follow: newspapers and magazines (24.96%); online media (20.54%); social media (13.49%); political meetings & gatherings (13.81%); friends

and family (16.51%); and churches (5.54%). There is almost no difference across genders in the trust in radio and television. 54.20% of women trust radio compared to 55.66% of men, 34.81% of women trust television compared to 35.23% of men, and 19.21% of women trust social media compared to 21.17% of men. Trust in radio is slightly higher in rural areas at 57.42% compared to urban areas at 53.34%. The difference in preference for television as a source of information is more significant at 23.36% in rural areas compared to 38.41% of respondents in urban areas.

Regarding general information needs before an election, most people prioritize understanding the government's response to current events or issues. The respondents highly value investigative journalism as it is considered the most effective way of providing information about society and politics. In order of priority, the list of general information needs is as follows: Investigations on what is happening in society (84.86%); investigations on the political actors (69.96%); shows that are more educational (50.12%); new channels for informing people like social media (12.34%); new formats to share news (21.21 %); giving other people the chance to speak and write in media (26.74%).

IV. Methodology

The *Assessment of Citizen Needs and Understanding of the Political System in Haiti* report is based on the findings of a national survey conducted between January 2 and January 30, 2024. The survey was conducted online and in-person, covering six focus areas: Elections, Democracy, The Haitian Political System, Citizen participation, Citizen Needs, and Information Needs.

Assessment objectives

Obtain insights into Haitian citizens' perspectives on the country's political system, levels of involvement in civic affairs, societal needs, and access to information.

Identify and highlight the key factors that prevent Haitian people from participating in civic and democratic processes.

Provide actionable insights to various stakeholders to guide their decisions and activities.

Sampling

Stratified random sampling was used to ensure diverse representation across Haiti's population. The sampling frame included the entire country, and potential respondents were divided into various detailed demographic strata, including region, commune, neighborhood, and rural and urban areas. Participants were randomly selected at the neighborhood level, considering both urban and rural communes.

The in-person survey was conducted among Haitian adults aged 18 or older across all ten country departments. 41% (1,167) of the sample population responded online, while 59% (1,686) responded in person.

The online survey targeted Haitians living in Haiti and was available through a KoboToolbox link. Diverse groups of Haitians, including urban and rural populations, different age groups, varying educational backgrounds, and diverse gender representation, were interviewed. The sample is not weighted to be representative of the Haitian population but rather to be a robust sample of the population.

Data collection procedures

The survey was conducted anonymously and voluntarily, with confidentiality and respect for the privacy of the respondents. For the in-person survey, 16 interviewers were trained and dispatched to randomly interview people who agreed to participate. The interviewer's identity, time checks, and answers were verified to control for errors and data falsification.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire was administered in Haitian Creole and included 31 close-ended questions divided into four sections. The first section focuses on demographic information such as age, gender, location, educational level, employment status and economic situation. The second section asked about engagement in political processes and trust in political

institutions. The third section measured self-reported knowledge of local and national entities and their roles. The fourth section inquired about citizen needs and preferred channels and sources to obtain political and electoral information. The questionnaire, in Haitian Creole and French, can be found in Attachment 1: Survey questions.

Limitations

Certain geographical areas were not included in the in-person survey due to safety concerns and restrictions on movement, especially in neighborhoods with reported gang activity, barricades, or protests, primarily in the Ouest department. The exclusion of individuals from those areas could have had an impact on survey results; however, the fact that they could still participate online helps mitigate this effect.

Due to the large number of questions and survey responses, some cross-analyses were omitted from this report to focus on the most impactful data.

The survey sample was not weighed to match the census parameters as it is beyond the scope of the current study. The last available census is outdated, as it was conducted in 2003. The study aimed to obtain a robust sample, but it did not thoroughly represent the Haitian population.

V. Assessment results

1. Key Findings on Elections

Voter ID rates

91% of respondents indicated that they have a voter ID card. As of February 2023, 5.3 million Haitians registered, and 4.4 million have received their voter ID/National ID while at least 900,000 are waiting (USAID)²⁶. Counting the people currently waiting to receive their cards, the number of registered voters for the next elections could be 6.2 million, which is 364,705 more people than the registered voters for the 2016 presidential election (IFES). Assuming other people register between February 2023 and 2024, the number may be even higher since the estimate of the population above 18 years old is slightly more than 7.4 million (IHSI, 2021).

The National ID Card (NIC) was introduced in 2006 and is the only ID enabling voting. New biometric cards were issued in 2019, and the National Office of Identification (ONI) has been updating its database. The NIC is widely known as the “Electoral Card”. The new biometric card is colloquially referred to as “*dermalog*”. The survey asked participants if they had the “*Kat elektoral*” (electoral card, synonymous with “*dermalog*”). In the present report, “voter ID card” is used as a general term for this card.

Voter ID & Age

Younger adults are more likely to have a voter ID.

95% of the age group 35-44 have a voter ID compared to 67.37% of adults aged 64 and older. The percentage of respondents who are not interested in obtaining a voter ID is higher among the younger and older adults in age groups 18-24 (25%) and 55-64 (25%), respectively.

Young individuals and older adults trust the process to obtain a voter ID.

The majority of respondents who do not trust the process to obtain a voter ID are in the age group 25-34 (33%) and 45-54 (33%). Trust in the process of obtaining the ID is not an issue for any respondents in the age groups 18-24 and 55-64 (both 0%).

More younger adults report an “access problem” as one of the reasons they do not have a voter ID.

Access to the center is an issue for respondents 18-34 years old (32.61% for those 18-24 and 23.91% for those 25-34). Crowded centers are an issue mainly for the younger respondents aged 18-34, at 23.08%.

The amount of time it takes to obtain a voter ID is an obstacle for older adults.

The long amount of time it takes to obtain the card is the main reason senior respondents aged 64 and older do not have one (10.5%). Fewer respondents between the ages of 45-64 identify it as an issue (9.38%).

Voter ID & Education

94.58% of individuals with a bachelor’s degree possess a voter ID. The highest rate of possession of a voter ID based on educational level is among those with a bachelor’s degree. The percentage of individuals with a voter ID is lower among individuals with no formal education (76.11%) compared to the whole population surveyed (90.92%). 33.33% of respondents who say they do not trust the process to obtain a voter ID have a bachelor’s degree.

Most respondents who cited “access problems” in obtaining their voter ID have not completed their secondary education and live in urban areas.

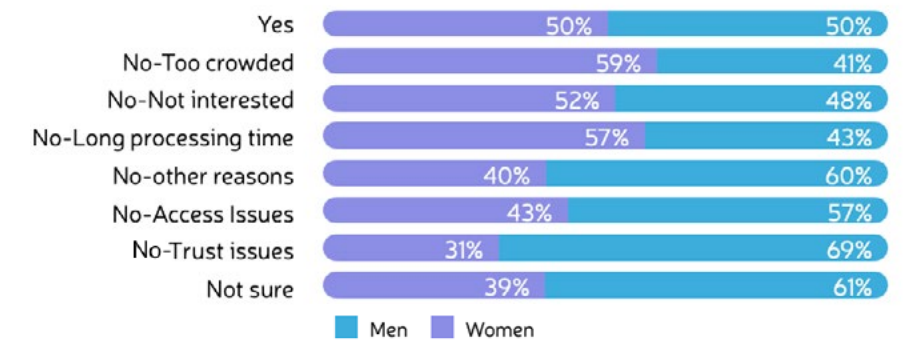
Time it takes to obtain a voter ID is an issue for people who can not read nor write, more than other education levels, including primary, secondary, college and graduate education at 31.25%.

²⁶ USAID. (2024, January). Haiti Identification Card: Letter of fact sheet. Retrieved from https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/HAITI_ID%20CARD%20Letter_Fact%20Sheet.pdf

The respondents who have no interest in getting a voter ID have either no formal education (25%) or have completed primary school (20.83%).

Voter ID & Gender

Out of the total respondents with a voter ID, slightly more are men (53%) than women (47%). 54% of respondents who identify access issues as the reason they do not have a voter ID are women. Most respondents who do not have a voter ID card because they do not trust the process (67%) are women, compared to a minority of men sharing the same opinion (33%). On the other hand, men respondents who do not have a voter ID say it is because: they are not interested (54%); the sites are too crowded (53%), or because it takes too long (59%).

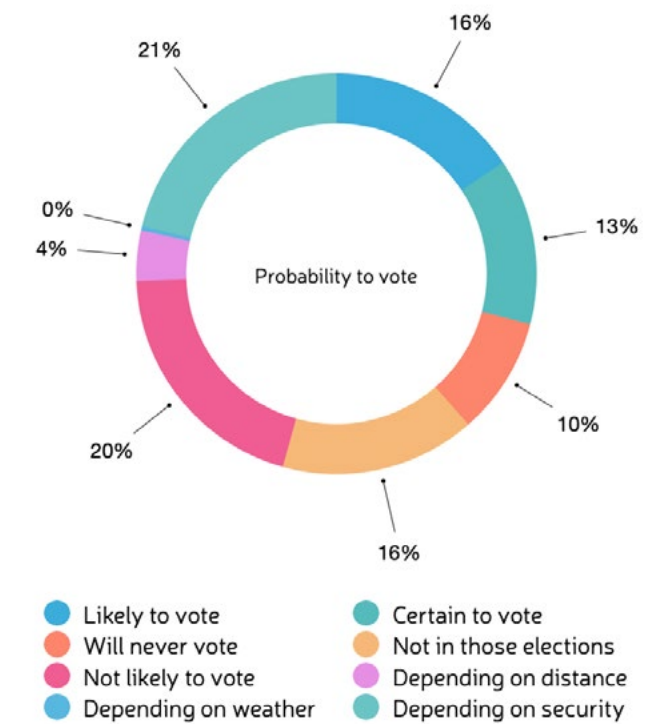


Voter ID & intention to vote

Having a voter ID is not directly linked to intention to vote. 30% of respondents with a voter ID say they will vote or are likely to vote.

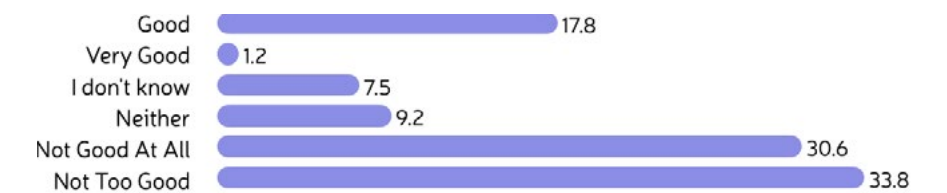
The results do not suggest an improvement in the voter turnout in the next elections considering the current context. Among respondents with a voter ID who say they will vote, 16.11% are “likely to vote,” and 13.9% are “sure to vote.” 43.76% of respondents with a voter ID say they “will not vote”; 8.6% “will never vote”; 20% “not likely to vote”; 15% “will not vote” in the upcoming elections. 26% of people with a voter ID “may vote”: depending on the security situation (21.9%), or depending on other factors (4.40%).

Respondents’ probability to vote is not linked with their decision to have a voter ID or the fact that they have a voter ID, which makes sense since the card is essential for identification purposes.



Process to register for a voter ID

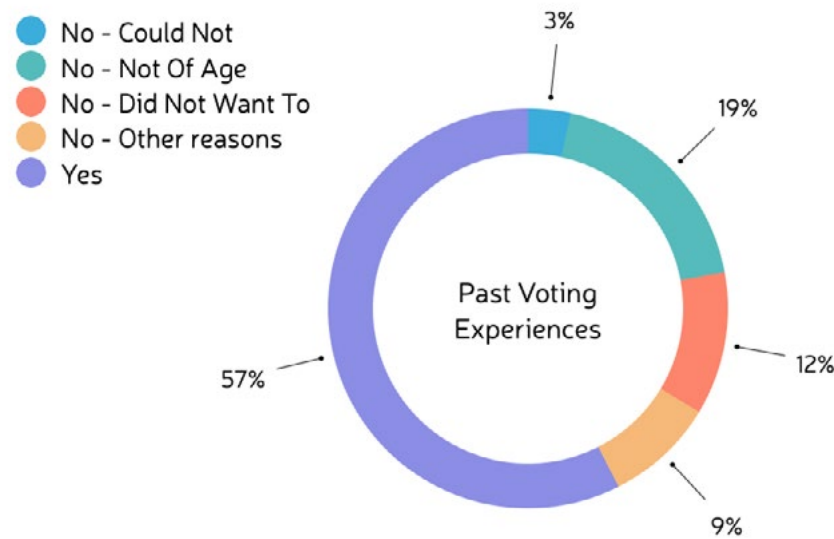
64.4% of the respondents think the process to obtain a voter ID is not good, including 30.6% who think it is “not good at all” and 33.8% who think it is “not too good.” Only 19% of participants think the process to obtain a voter ID is “good” or “very good.”



Voter ID & other characteristics

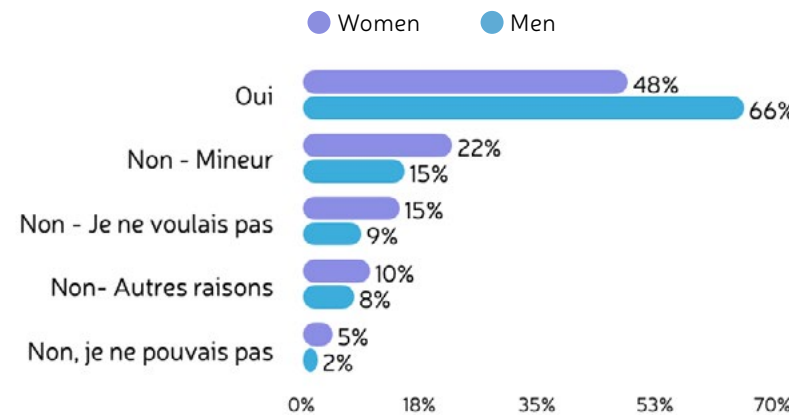
- 93.37% of voter ID holders do not trust the way elections are conducted in Haiti (76.33% “do not trust”; 8.37% “will never trust”; 8.67% t trust for other reasons).
- 91.30% of those who think the way elections are organized is “not good at all” still have a voter ID card, and 100% of those who say “it is very good” have it also. This small difference may show that people have the voter ID mainly for identification purposes.
- 61.9% of people registered to vote think the way elections are organized in the country is “not good at all.”
- The majority of respondents do not have any political party affiliation (47.78% of registered voters).
- There is a minor difference in urban (91.60%) vs. rural (88.32%) voter ID possession.
- 79.15% of individuals with disabilities have a voter ID, indicating potential accessibility issues in the process.

2. Key Findings on Electoral Participation



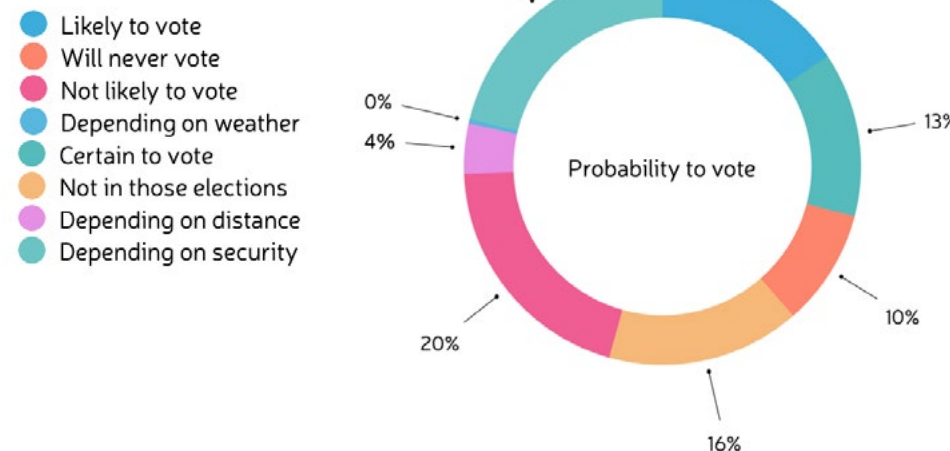
Past Voting Experience

Most survey respondents have voted before (57.48%). 19% didn't vote because they were not 18 then, and around 12% did not vote because they did not want to.



Past Voting Experience & Gender

60% of the respondents who have voted before are men compared to women who represent 40%.



Probability to vote:

Would you vote if the prime minister's (Ariel Henry's) government organized elections?

Only 29% of the respondents are “likely” (16%) or “sure” (13%) to vote in the next elections organized under the current government.

45% of the respondents may not vote: 9% “will never vote,” 16% “will not vote in the upcoming election,” and 20% are “unlikely to vote.” Other respondents may vote depending on the security situation (21%); the distance to the voting center (4%); or the weather (less than 1%).

Probability to vote & gender

The percentage of women who are unlikely to vote is more than twice the percentage of women who are likely to vote, while the gap is narrower among men. Additionally, more than 10% more men are likely to vote than women. The percentage of women who may vote depending on other factors such as security, distance, and weather is higher than that of men and higher than the percentage of women who are likely to vote.

Opinion on organization of elections

88.6% of the respondents have a strong negative perception of how elections are traditionally conducted in Haiti. 61.65% believe that it is “not good at all,” while 26.95% feel that it is “not too good.” Only about 1% of the respondents think that it is “good.” The remaining respondents are either neutral or have no opinion on the matter.

Only 2% of the respondents have confidence in the electoral system. In contrast, 93.27% of the participants stated that they do not trust the electoral system. Additionally, 9% of the respondents expressed their lack of trust in the elections conducted under the current government, while another 9% of the participants stated that they will never trust this process.

Probability to vote & gender

	Likely to vote	Not likely to vote	May vote, depending on other factors
Women	22.56%	49.86%	28.18%
Men	34.96 %	41.25%	23.78%

Table 3. Opinion on organization of elections and place of residence

	Good	Very Good	Total good	I don't know	Neither good nor bad	Not good at all	Not too good	Total not good
Rural	1.22%	0.00%	1.22%	6.57%	4.14%	59.85%	28.22%	88.07%
Urban	1.28%	014%	1.42%	5.62%	4.34%	62.09%	26.53%	88.62%
Peri-urban	0.48%	0.10%	0.58%	5.21%	5.41%	61.78%	27.03%	88.81%

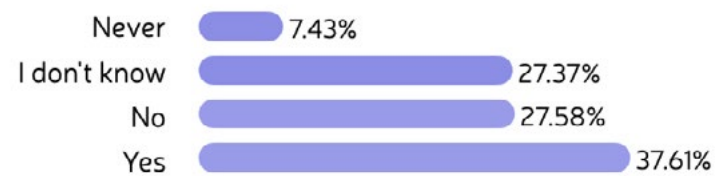
Table 6. Opinion on organization of elections across regions

	Good	Very Good	I don't know	Neither good nor bad	Not good at all	Not too good
Artibonite	1.10%	0.37%	6.99%	5.51%	65.07%	20.96%
Centre	1.40%	0.00%	5.14%	6.54%	50.93%	35.98%
Grand'Anse	0.00%	0.00%	1.47%	2.94%	69.61%	25.98%
Nippes	4.17%	0.00%	5.21%	1.04%	58.33%	31.25%
Nord	0.36%	0.00%	3.20%	3.20%	75.00%	18.15%
Nord-Est	0.00%	0.00%	6.60%	5.58%	55.33%	32.49%
Nord-Ouest	5.58%	0.47%	3.72%	6.98%	18.14%	65.12%
Ouest	0.35%	0.12%	5.82%	4.19%	68.45%	21.07%
Sud-Est	0.77%	0.00%	11.15%	6.92%	62.69%	18.46%
Sud	0.00%	0.00%	5.10%	3.53%	64.71%	26.67%

3. Key Findings on Democracy

Hope in change through elections

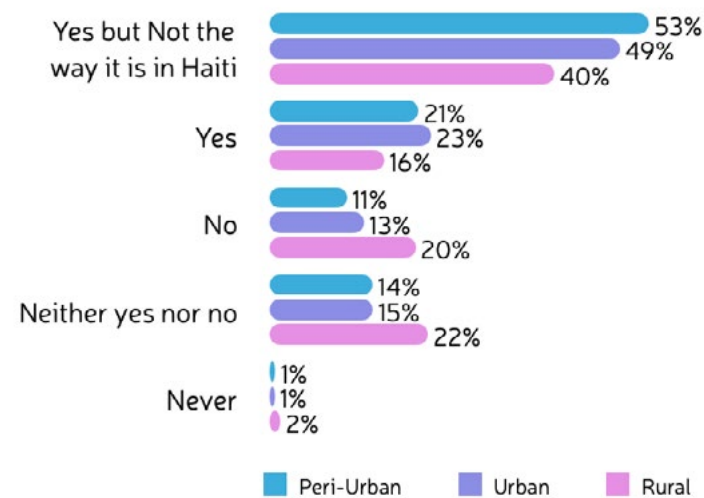
Do you have hope that leaders running for election can win and make positive change?



38% of the respondents have hope that leaders who run for elections can make positive changes in the country.

Belief in Democracy

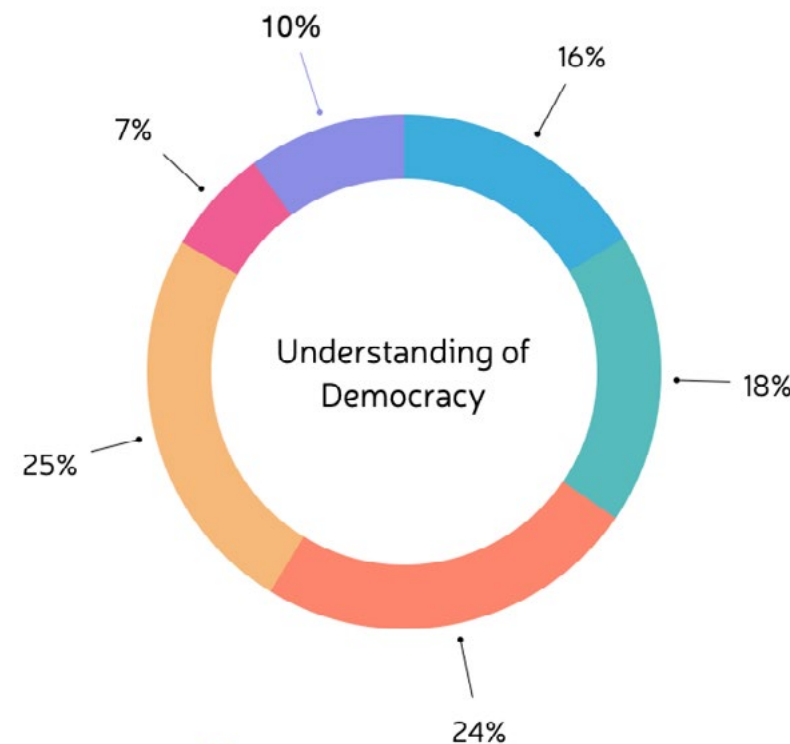
Do you believe in democracy?



Around 70% of the respondents believe in democracy compared to 14.51% who do not (1.05% say they would “never” believe in it and 13.46% say they “do not believe in it”).

Table 7. Trust in the electoral system across regions

	Never Trust	Don't Know	No	Not under the current government	Yes
Artibonite	5.15%	4.78%	83.46%	3.68%	2.94%
Centre	9.81%	5.14%	78.50%	4.21%	2.34%
Grand'Anse	9.31%	0.00%	80.88%	8.82%	0.98%
Nippes	1.04%	4.17%	90.62%	0.00%	4.17%
Nord	4.98%	2.14%	85.05%	7.47%	0.36%
Nord-Est	2.54%	7.61%	83.25%	6.09%	0.51%
Nord-Ouest	10.70%	6.98%	62.79%	11.63%	7.91%
Ouest	10.59%	4.31%	75.90%	8.03%	1.16%
Sud-Est	11.54%	9.23%	53.85%	24.23%	1.15%
Sud	16.86%	4.71%	67.45%	9.41%	1.57%



Understanding Democracy

Do you understand what democracy is?

48.76% of the respondents believe that they either have some knowledge or full knowledge of what democracy means. 18.33% of the respondents stated that they have a moderate understanding of the concept of democracy. Only 10% of the respondents claimed that they do not understand the concept of democracy.



Table 8. Belief in democracy across regions

	Never	Neither yes or No	No	Yes	Yes but not the way it is in Haiti	Total yes
Grand'Anse	0.49%	29.90%	6.37%	16.67%	46.57%	63.24%
Artibonite	0.37%	15.44%	12.50%	34.93%	36.76%	71.69%
Ouest	0.23%	6.05%	9.66%	23.75%	60.30%	84.05%
Nippes	0%	42.71%	12.50%	11.46%	33.33%	44.79%
Nord	0.36%	7.83%	14.95%	12.46%	64.41%	76.87%
Nord-Ouest	2.33%	48.37%	14.88%	23.26%	11.16%	34.42%
Nord-Est	3.55%	5.08%	13.20%	24.37%	53.81%	78.18%
Centre	3.74%	7.48%	14.49%	14.49%	59.81%	74.3%
Sud	0.78%	26.67%	13.33%	13.73%	45.49%	59.22%
Sud-Est	10%	6.52%	20.05%	9.35%	6.81%	16.16%

Table 9. Understanding of democracy across regions

	Not very well	Yes I somewhat Understand	Yes I Understand	Yes I Fully Understand	I don't know	I don't Understand	Total yes
Grand'Anse	21.57%	29.47%	20.59%	7.84%	5.39%	15.20%	57.9%
Artibonite	9.56%	13.97%	23.90%	33%	4.78%	14.71%	70.87%
Ouest	6.98%	21.07%	25.38%	42.37%	1.51%	2.68%	88.82%
Nippes	18.75%	8.33%	22.92%	3.12%	9.38%	37.50%	34.37%
Nord	23.49%	16.01%	25.98%	25.27%	1.42%	7.83%	67.26%
Nord-Ouest	19.53%	5.12%	10.23%	15.81%	34.42%	14.88%	31.16%
Nord-Est	20.81%	8.63%	48.22%	14.21%	0.51%	7.61%	71.06%
Centre	27.57%	18.22%	33.18%	11.68%	1.40%	7.94%	63.08%
Sud	24.71%	25.10%	16.47%	10.98%	9.02%	13.73%	52.55%
Sud-Est	17.69%	23.08%	14.23%	17.31%	15.00%	12.69%	54.62%

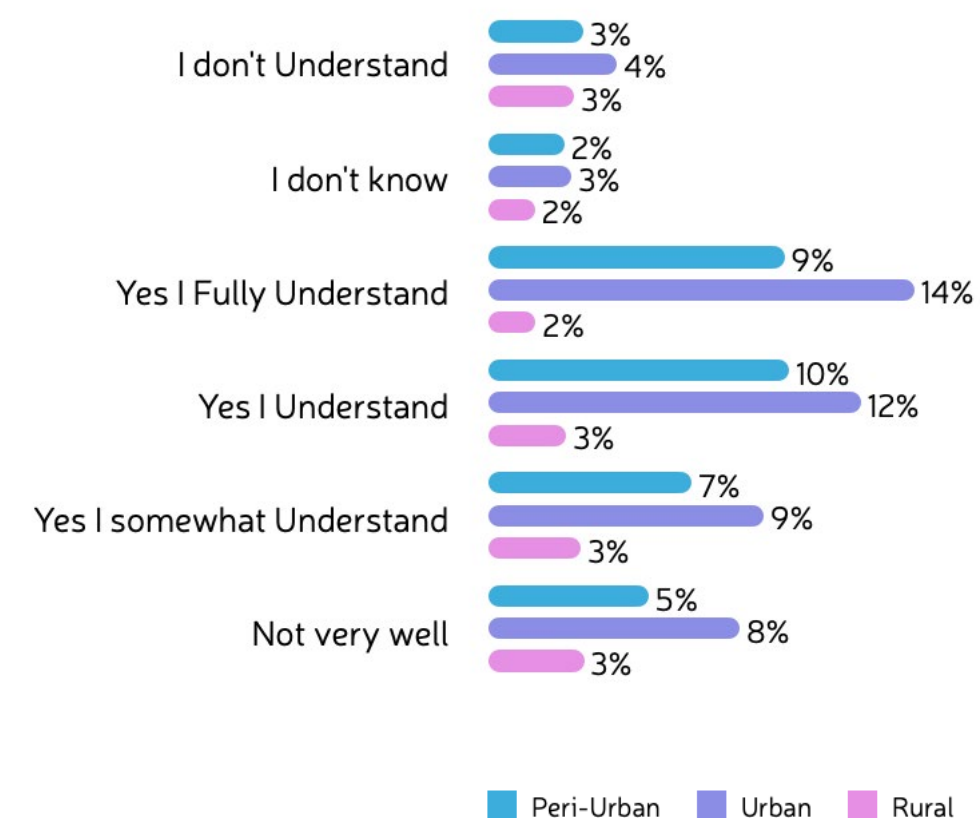
Understanding of Democracy & Urban Vs Rural Residence

Table 10. Belief in democracy & age

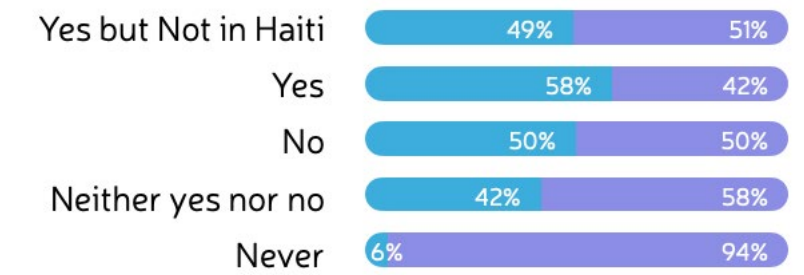
	Never	Neither yes nor no	No	Yes	Yes but Not the way it is in Haiti	Total yes
18-24	1.52%	15.18%	12.14%	18.98%	52.18%	71.16%
25-34	0.85%	12.56%	9.92%	22.38%	54.30%	76.68%
35-44	0.89%	14.56%	12.18%	24.37%	47.99%	72.36%
45-54	0.93%	16.77%	21.43%	16.77%	44.10%	60.87%
55-64	1.69%	28.25%	23.73%	17.51%	28.81%	46.32%
64- older	1.05%	31.58%	23.16%	13.68%	30.53%	44.21%

Table 11. Understanding of Democracy and age

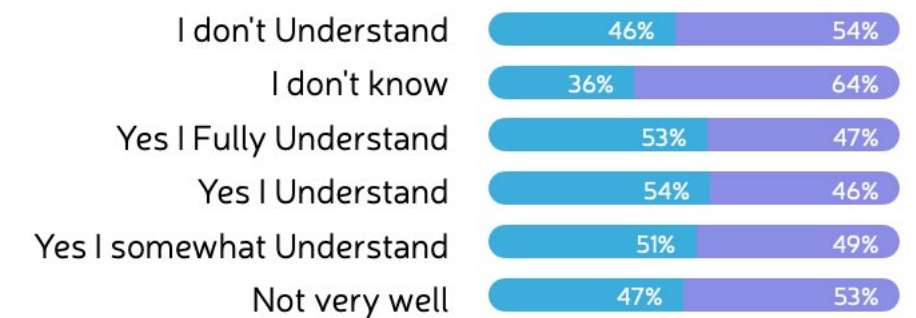
	Not very well	Yes I somewhat Understand	Yes I Understand	Yes I Fully Understand	I don't know	I don't Understand	Total yes
18-24	15.75%	18.79%	27.13%	23.72%	7.21%	7.40%	69.64%
25-34	12.65%	19.26%	26.44%	29.46%	4.91%	7.27%	75.16%
35-44	15.01%	17.24%	27.04%	26.45%	5.65%	8.62%	70.73%
45-54	23.60%	20.50%	17.08%	14.91%	6.21%	17.70%	52.49%
55-64	25.42%	14.12%	11.30%	16.95%	14.12%	18.08%	42.37%
64- older	27.37%	13.68%	7.37%	11.58%	17.89%	22.11%	32.63%

Men Women

Belief in democracy and gender



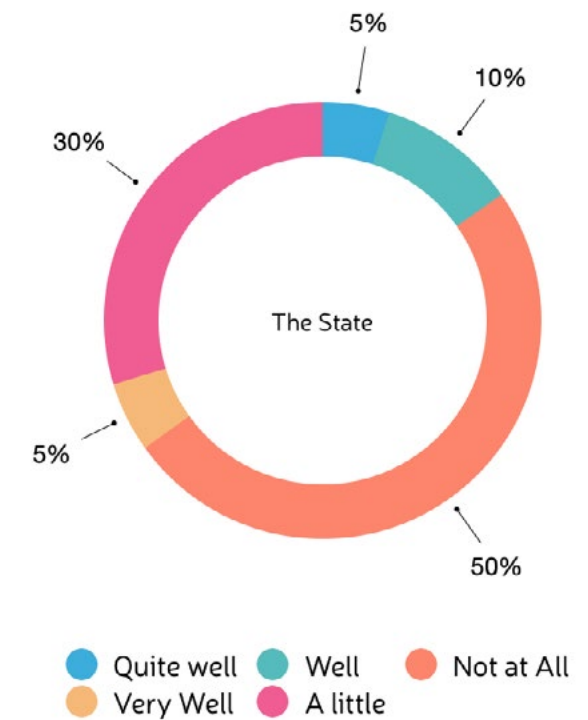
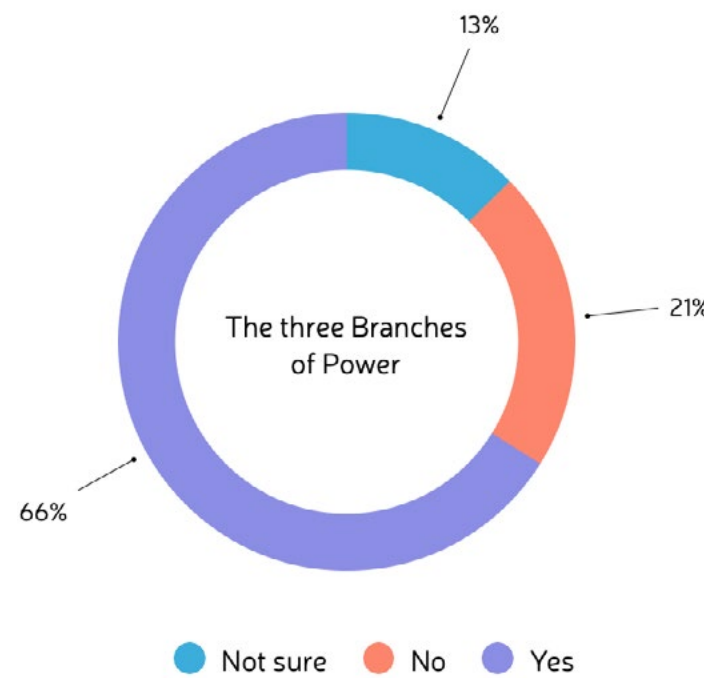
Understanding of democracy and gender



4. Key Findings on the political system

Among the respondents, 66% said they knew the three branches of power in the country, 21% did not know, and 13% were unsure.

About half of the respondents (49.84%) indicate that they do not understand at all how the state operates. 29.72% of respondents have minimal knowledge about it, while 10.3% feel they understand it well. Around 4.94% of respondents feel quite confident about their knowledge of state operations. A small percentage of the population (5.19%) claims a complete understanding of how the state operates.



5. Key Findings on Citizen Participation

The most popular political activity among the respondents is community meetings, with 54% having participated before. The second most popular activity is membership or participation in activities organized by organizations (48%), followed by protests (35%) and public consultations (34%). The least popular activity is volunteering for a political party or candidate (19%).

More than half of the respondents (54%) are not interested in volunteering for a political party or candidate, indicating a lack of interest in direct political activity. Similarly, 52% of the respondents are not interested in participating in a march, sit-in, demonstration, or protest.

Regarding public consultations, the percentage of respondents who would like to participate is higher (35.23%) than those who have participated or are not interested in participating. This is the activity that more people express an interest in participating in as well. On the other hand, the march, sit-in, or protest option is the activity with the lowest percentage of respondents expressing an interest in participating (13%). Most respondents either had already participated (35%) or were not interested in this activity (52%).

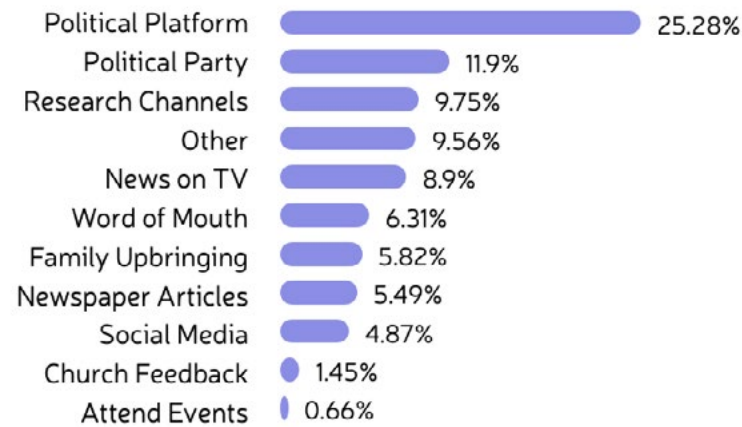
Civic & political participation

Have you ever participated in the following activities?

Activity	Not Interested	Would like to	Sometimes	Always
Community meetings	22.76 %	23.19 %	43.76 %	10.29 %
Public consultation	30.51%	35.23%	29.97%	4.29%
Volunteer for a political party or candidate	54.35 %	26.22%	16.48 %	2.95%
Petition	38.05%	28.54%	29.00 %	4.40%
March, sit-in, demonstration, or protest	52.27%	12.96%	30.70%	4.07%
Organization/association related activities	25.18 %	26.91%	36.76 %	11.16%

Assessment of Candidate

On what basis do you assess a political candidate?

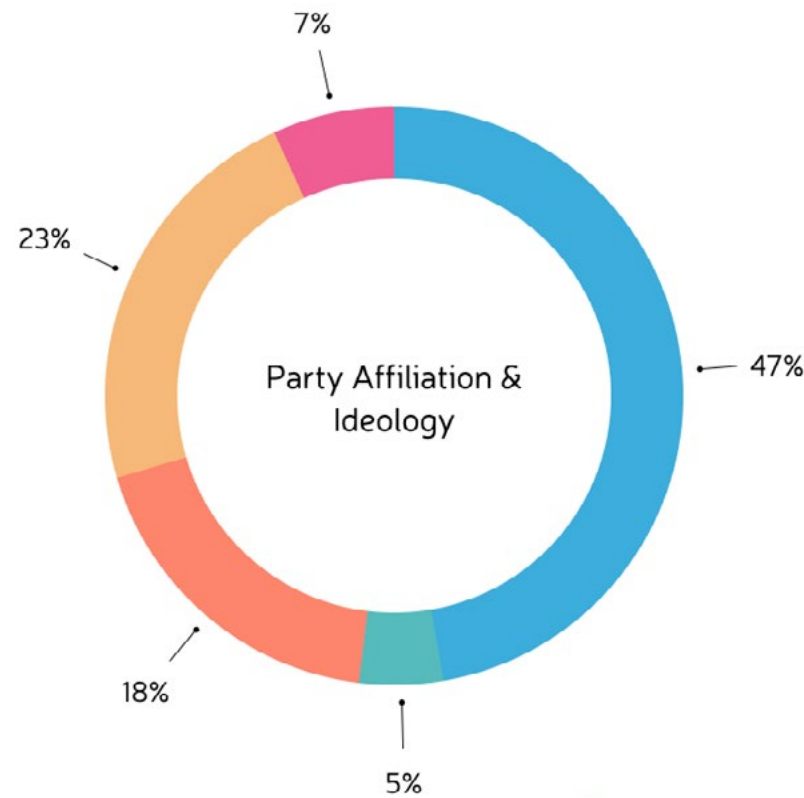


The most important factor in evaluating political candidates is their political platform, which is more significant than any other criterion. Political party affiliation also plays a crucial role, followed by personal experiences such as attending events and conducting individual research.

It is worth noting that traditional media sources such as TV news and newspapers are still relevant but less important than others. Despite its widespread use, social media ranks lower on the list, suggesting that it may not be as influential as other forms of information when evaluating political candidates, despite the relatively high rates of individuals indicating that this is a primary way they get their information. Church feedback is the least utilized criterion among the respondents.

Party Affiliation & Ideology

Do you identify with a particular political party or ideology?

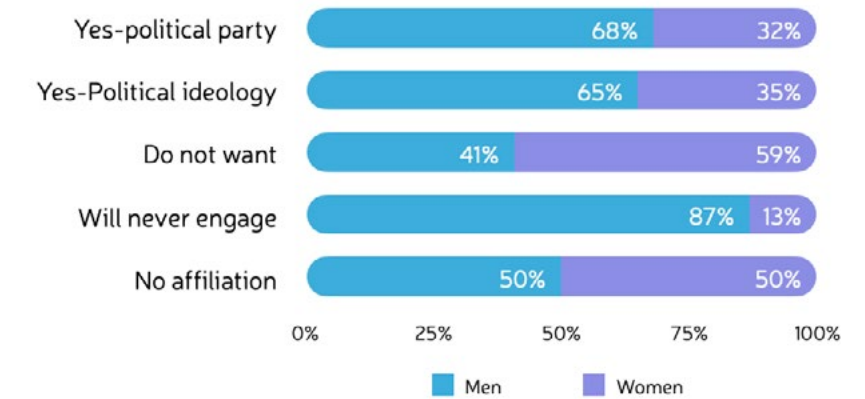


- Not affiliated
- Not interested, in current political climate
- Yes, political party
- Not interested, ever
- Yes, Political ideology

47% of the respondents have no political affiliation or ideology, 23% adhere to a political ideology, while only 7% are affiliated with a political party.

Party Affiliation & Ideology by Gender

Do you identify with a particular political party or ideology?

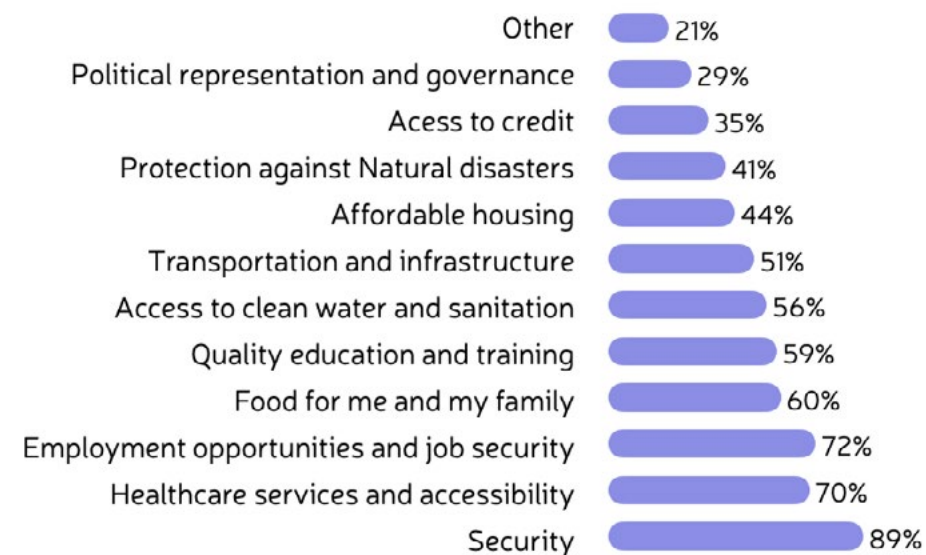


Out of the respondents who identified themselves as members of a political party, 68% are men, and the percentage is 65% for those who adhere to a political ideology. In contrast, women represented 61% of those who stated that they would never engage in politics and 59% of respondents who indicated not wanting to participate in politics.

6. Key Findings on Citizen Needs

Important Need

What is your most pressing need as a citizen?



Security is the most urgent need for the respondents, followed closely by the need for employment opportunities and access to healthcare. Education, water and sanitation, and transportation infrastructure are also significant areas of concern for the respondents.

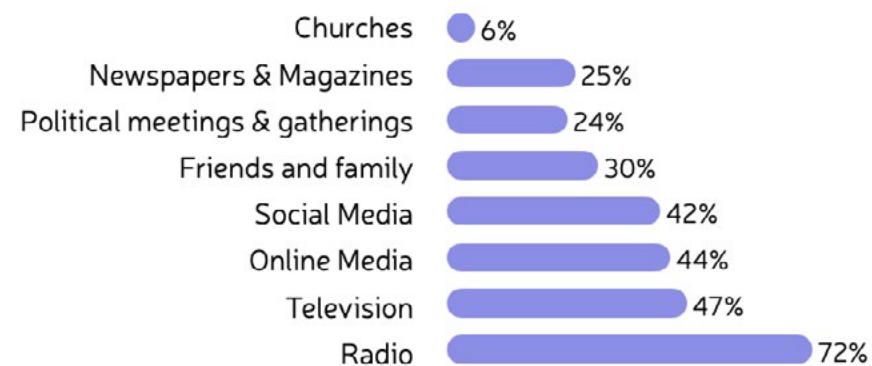
The relatively lower frequency of responses for affordable housing, protection against natural disasters, access to credit, and political representation suggests that while these are still important, they may not be as pressing as the top-listed needs for the surveyed population.

The category “Other need” may include a range of less common or more individual-specific needs that are not explicitly listed in the survey options but still hold importance for certain respondents.

7. Key Findings on citizen’s information needs

Sources of Information

How do you get information about politics and elections?

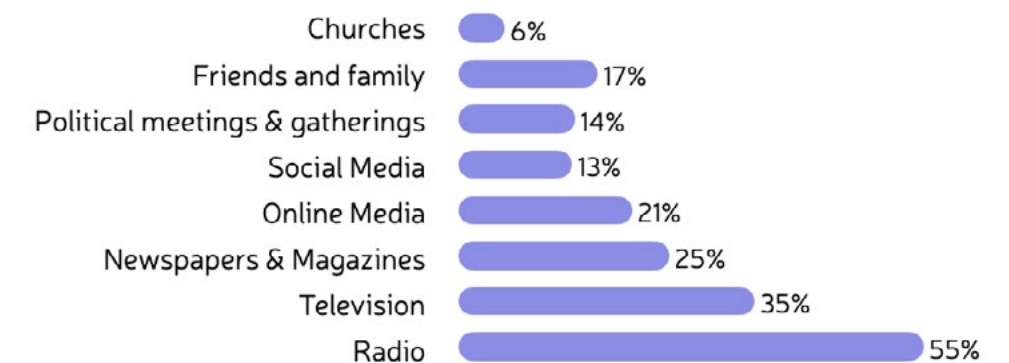


Radio is the most popular source of political and election information, followed by television and online media. Social media platforms also play a significant role.

While traditional print media like newspapers and magazines and personal networks such as friends and family are still relevant information channels, they are less used than electronic and online media. The “other” category may include unspecified sources that did not fit the predefined categories

Trusted Sources of Information

What sources of information do you trust?



Radio is also the most trusted source of information for survey respondents, surpassing other sources significantly. Television is also highly trusted, followed closely by “other” sources, which could refer to a variety of non-traditional or niche information channels.

Newspapers and magazines still hold substantial credibility while online media is less trusted than print media, it is still a significant trusted source of information.

Despite the widespread use of social media platforms for obtaining information, they are less trusted than radio, television, and print media. Direct sources like friends and family and political meetings rank lower on the trust scale, suggesting a possible preference for more formal sources of information. Church, as a source of information, is the least trusted among the options listed.

Information Needs

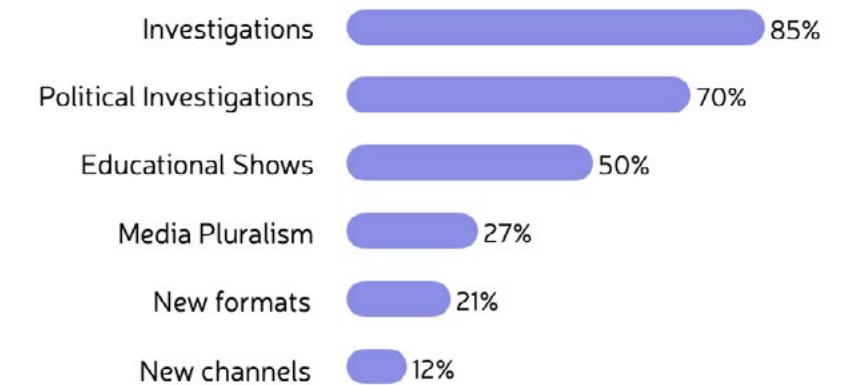
Ahead of a potential election, what information do you need most about the country's politics in order to feel prepared to vote?



Most people prioritize understanding the government's response to current events or issues as their primary information need before an election. They also want to learn about the policies and agendas of parties or candidates and the backgrounds of the candidates themselves. It is also essential for people to know about election dates and procedures. Political rights and citizenship information is also important. Political reforms and government performance are also important but are the end of the ranking. International relations are of least concern for respondents.

Recommendation for Journalists

How can journalists provide the best information about the country's politics?



Respondents highly value investigative journalism as the most effective way for journalists to provide information about society and politics. The respondents also consider educational shows necessary. Although media pluralism and introducing new formats are also important, they are considered less critical than investigative work and educational programming. New channels to disseminate information, on the other hand, are the least favored among the options provided. This may indicate that respondents are relatively satisfied with existing media outlets or prioritize the quality and depth of content over the novelty of the platform.

VI. Recommendations

The recommendations provided in this report are based on the results obtained and presented, and limited to the areas of education and information. These insights may guide and inform the decisions and actions being taken by stakeholders working on this sphere in Haiti, aiming at strengthening Haitian democracy and citizen engagement.

Voter Education and Information

- Develop targeted voter education campaigns that aim to clarify the significance of elections in the voting process and provide information on where and how to vote.
- Support awareness campaigns and education campaigns on democracy.
- Mobilize technology and social media to promote citizen participation and dialogue.
- Support initiatives to encourage citizens to vote that go beyond education campaigns to include town hall meetings, candidate debates, social media content, and targeted outreach to specific demographics.
- Provide clear and accessible information on election day logistics to reduce uncertainty and improve turnout. The ongoing security crisis has resulted in many people being displaced and living far away from their registered voting location, which makes it crucial to allow them to change

their voting center early enough. Furthermore, it is important to note that no public transportation is available on the day of the election.

- Implement comprehensive education campaigns tailored to various educational levels and linguistic needs to enhance understanding of Haiti's political structure, electoral laws, and the roles and responsibilities of elected officials.

Electoral Processes

- Strengthen transparency and accountability mechanisms within the electoral process to rebuild public trust and guarantee fair, free, and transparent elections. This should go beyond discourse to include tangible actions that will show clear signals.
- Engage in dialogue with the community to address their skepticism towards the electoral system and traditional election organization methods.

→ Ensure that all stakeholders, including political parties, media, and civil society, are involved in the process.

- Strengthen information providers' capacity to respond directly to the population's information needs in regard to the electoral process, representing a true two-way information flow.

Information Needs

- Support investigative journalism and educational programming to boost citizen participation and strengthen democratic institutions for accountability.
- Expand the reach of trusted information sources and channels, such as radio and television, and explore new formats and channels to engage a broader audience.

VII. Acknowledgments

This assessment and this report are the results of a collaboration between Internews and Pòlicite. The report was enriched with input and feedback from Internews and Pòlicite teams and partners. It would not have been possible without the participation of the almost three thousand people who agreed to share their opinions, beliefs, practices, and needs.

The dedicated interviewers who went in the field to collect data made it possible to reach a high number of people from diverse backgrounds.

The following people worked directly on the assessment:

- Survey design, data analysis, and report: Emmanuela DOUYON
- Project Management: Yvens RUMBOLD
- Design Layout: Ralph DUPOUX

VIII. Attachments

Attachment 1: Survey questions

Mèsi dèske w aksepte pran tan w pou patisipe nan sondaj sa Pòlicite ak patnè li yo ap reyalize. Sondaj sa se pou Ayisyen ki ap viv Ayiti. Li ap pran 10 pou rive 12 minit pou ranpli kesyonè sa. Ankèt sa a enpòtan anpil paske li pral ede nou konprann pi byen sa ayisyen panse de sistèm politik la e sa yo bezwen konnen pi byen . Nou vle asire w tout enfòmasyon ou bay ap rete konplètman anonim epi li pap janm asosye avèk idantite pèsònèl ou. Nou pap mande w okenn enfòmasyon sou non w adrès ou oswa nimewo telefòn ou. Mèsi anpil pou tan ou ak koperasyon ou. Tanpri, konfime konsantman ou pou patisipe nan sondaj sa a.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey conducted by Pòlicite and its partners. This survey is for Haitians living in Haiti. It will take 10 to 12 minutes to complete this questionnaire. This survey is very important as it will help us better understand what Haitians think about the political system and what they need to know more about. We assure you that all information you provide will remain completely anonymous and will never be associated with your identity. We will not ask for your name, address, or phone number. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation. Please confirm your consent to participate in this survey.

- Wi m ap patisipe/ *Yes, I will participate*
- Non m pa p patisipe/ *No, I will not participate.*

I.Done Sosyo-Demografi / SocioDemographic data

1.Nan ki Depatman nan peyi Dayiti w ap viv? **In which Department (region) in Haiti do you live?**

The list will be included.

2. Ki laj ou genyen? **How old are you?**

Participants will enter their age.

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 ou plis *(or older)*

3. A ki sèks ou idantifye tèt ou? **Which gender do you identify with?**

- Fanm *(Female)*
- Gason *(Male)*
- Lòt *(other)*

4. Ki pi wo nivo edikasyon ou resevwa? **What is the highest level of education you have received?**

- M pa konn li ni ekri *(I can't read nor write)*
- M koumanse Edikasyon Primè *(Some Primary Education)*
- M fini Lekol Primè (pase setifika) *Completed Primary Education*
- M koumanse lekòl Segondè *(Some Secondary Education)*
- M fini lekòl segondè *(Completed Secondary Education)*

- M nan Inivèsite oswa te koumanse Inivèsite (*Attending College/University or Some College/University*)
- M nan lekòl Pwofesyonèl (*Enrolled in a Vocational or Trade School/ Some Vocational or Trade School*)
- M gen Diplòm pwofesyonèl / *Vocational or Trade School diploma*
- M gen Diplòm oswa lisans inivèsite / *Bachelor's Degree*
- M nan metriz oswa m gen metriz deja/ *Master's Degree*
- M nan dakota oswa m gen doktora deja / *Ph.D*

5. Èske w ap travay nan moman an? What is your current employment status)

- M ap travay / *Employed full-time*
- M pa travay *chak jou Employed part-time*
- M pa p travay/ *Unemployed*
- M se etidyan- m pa p travay / *Student*
- M se pansyonè/ *Retired*

6. Kijan ou ta dekri sitiyasyon ekonomik ou? How would you describe your economic situation?

- M nan anpil difikilte (*very difficult*)
- M apèn ka okipe tèt mwen (*manage barely*)
- M ka degaje m (*getting_by*)
- M konfòtab (*comfortable*)
- M konsidere m nan kategori moun ki pi alèz la (*well_off*)

7. Èske ou idantifye tèt ou ak yon relijyon? Do you identify with a particular religion?

- Katolik/ *Catholic*
- Pwotestan/ *Protestant*

- Vodouwizan - *Voodoo practitioner*
- Okenn relijyon / *No religious affiliation*
- Lòt relijyon/ *Other religions*

8. Èske ou ap viv ak yon andikap?/ (Do you live with any disabilities that you would like to disclose?)

- Wi - Andikap fizik (*Yes - Physical disability*)
- Wi - Andikap fizik (*itilizatè chèz woulant/Baton oswa beki*) (*Yes - Physical disability (wheelchair/cane user)*)
- Wi - Soud/Malantandan (*Yes - Hearing impaired/deaf*)
- Wi - Pa wè byen/Avèg (*Yes - Visually impaired/blind*)
- Wi- Lòt andikap/ *Yes other disability*
- Non (*No*)

9. Kijan w ka dekri kote w abite a ? Place of residence

- Lavi/ *Urban area*
- Pre vil la / *Peri-urban*
- Andeyò/ *Rural area*

II. Patisipasyon Politik ak Pèsepsyon / Political Participation & perception

10. Eske ou gen kat elektoral? / (Do you have a voter ID Card?)

- Wi / *Yes*
- M pa kwè/ *Not sure*
- Non - akòz Pwoblèm aksè/ *Lack of accessibility*
- Non- gen Twòp moun nan sant yo /*Centers are too crowded.*
- Non- sa ap pran twòp tan / *Processing times*

- Non - sa pa enterese m/ *No I am not interested*
- Non- M pa fye pwosesis la/ *No, I don't trust the process*
- Non- pou lòt rezon/ *No, for other reason*

11. Kijan w evalye pwosesis pou anrejistre pou w vote a (Pwosesis pou fè kat elektoral la)?/ (How do you evaluate the process for registering to vote/the process to register for a voter ID card?)

- Pa bon ditou/ *Not good at all*
- Pa twò bon/ *Not too good*
- Ni bon ni pa bon/ *Neither good nor bad*
- Bon/ *Good*
- Bon anpil/ *Very good*
- M pa konnen/ *I don't know*

12. Eske ou vote deja?/ (Have you voted before?)

- Wi / *Yes*
- Non m pa t ko gen laj / *No I was not 18 years old*
- Non m pa t vle / *No I did not want to*
- Non m pa t kapab/ *No I couldn't*
- Non- Pou lòt rezon /*No, for other reason*

13. Eske w pral vote si gouvènman sa òganize eleksyon?/ (Would you vote if the current government is organizing the elections?)

- M ap vote san mank/ *Certain to vote*
- Gen anpil chans pou m vote/ *Verly likely to vote*
- M pa p vote nan eleksyon gouvènman sa / *I won't vote in any elections organized by the current government*
- M pa p vote nan okenn eleksyon/ *I will never vote/Gen-*

eral Non-Participation

- Sa depan de sitiasyon sekirite a - *It depends on the security situation*
- Sa depan de kote biwo vòt la ye a - *It depends on the location of the vote center*
- Sa depan de si pa gen lapli/move tan jou a / *Weather Dependent*
- Pa gen anpil chans pou m vote/ *Not likely to vote*

14. Èske ou patisipe nan yonn nan aktivite sa yo deja: / (Have you ever participated in the following activities?)

- Lis aktivite yo/ *List of activities*
- Eske w patisipe nan yon rankont sitwayen nan kominote w la deja? *Have you attended community meetings?*
- Eske w patisipe nan yon konsiltasyon piblik deja/ *Have you participated in a public consultation?*
- Eske w fè volontarya pou yon pati politik oubyen kandida deja? *Have you volunteered for a political party or candidate?*
- Eske w siyen yon petisyon deja? *Have you signed a petition?*
- Eske w patisipe nan sit-in, mach pasifik oswa manifestasyon deja? *Have you participated in a march, sit-in, demonstration, or protest?*
- Eske w se manm yon òganizasyon/asosyasyon kèlkonk, oswa konn patisipe nan aktivite yo, fè volontarya, bay kotizasyon elatriye?/ *Are you a member of any organization/association, or do you participate in their activities, do volunteer work, pay dues, etc.?*

Opsyon repons/ Choices

- M pa enterese a sa/ *I am not interested in doing so*
- M pa ko janm fè sa / *I have never done that*
- M pa ko janm fè sa men m swete fè sa / *I have not yet done that, but I would like to*
- Sa konn rive / *It happens sometimes*
- M toujou patisipe / *I always participate*

15. Èske ou idantifye tèt ou ak yon pati politik patikilye oubyen yon ideyoloji politik? Do you identify with a particular political party or ideology?

- Wi m idantifye m a yon Pati politik espesifik/ *Yes, I identify with a specific political party.*
- Wi m idantifye a yon ideyoloji politik menm pa nan pati politik/ *Yes, I identify with a political ideology but not with a political party.*
- M pa nan okenn pati politik ni adere ak yon ideoloji politik/ *I am not affiliated with any political party nor do I adhere to any political ideology*
- M pa vle pale de politik ni fè politik/ *I don't want to talk about politics or engage in politics.*
- M pa p janm pale de politik ni fè politik/ *I will never talk about politics or engage in politics.*

16. Eske w gen zanmi, fanmi, moun ki pwòch ou nan travay oswa legliz ki ap fè/ politik? /Do you have friends, family, or people close to you at work or church who are involved in politics?

- Wi/ *Yes*
- Non/ *No*

- Petèt/ *Maybe*
- M pa konnen/ *I don't know*

17. Kisa w panse de jan eleksyon òganize tradisyonèlman nan peyi a? What do you think about how elections are traditionally organized in the country?

- Pa bon ditou/ *Not good at all*
- Pa twò bon/ *Not really good*
- Ni bon ni pa bon/ *Neither good nor bad*
- Bon/ *Good*
- Bon anpil/ *Very good*
- M pa konnen/ *I don't know*

18. Eske w gen konfyans nan fason nou fè eleksyon nan peyi a (sa vle di fason sistèm elektoral la fonksyone) / Do you trust the way we conduct elections in the country? (meaning do you trust the way the electoral system works)?

- Wi/ *Yes*
- Non/ *No*
- Non , pa sou gouvènman sa -- *Not under the current government*
- Jamè/ *Never*
- M pa konnen/ *I don't know*

19. Eske w konprann kisa demokrasi ye? Do you understand what democracy is?

- M konprann trè byen / *Yes I Fully Understand*
- M konprann byen / *Yes I Understand*
- M konprann ase byen / *Yes I somewhat Understand*

- M Pa vreman konprann / *Not very well*
- M pa konprann / *I don't Understand*
- M pa konnen/ *I don't know*

20. Eske w kwè nan demokrasi? Do you believe in democracy?

- Demokrasi se lè pèp la gen pouvwa pou chwazi gouvènman l vle nan libète. Chak moun gen dwa vote epi bay opinyon yo sou kijan peyi a dwe dirije. (*Democracy is when the people have the power to choose their government freely. Everyone has the right to vote and give their opinion on how the country should be governed.*)

21. Eske w panse gen moun ki pral nan eleksyon, ki ka genyen eleksyon epi pote chanjman nan peyi a? Do you have hope that people (leaders) running for election can win and make positive change?

- Wi/ *Yes*
- Non/*No*
- Jamè/ *Never*
- M pa konnen/ *I don't know*

III. Konesans sou Sistèm Politik la / Knowledge of the Political System:

22. Eske w konprann kijan leta foksyon?/ Do you understand how the state operates?

- Pa ditou - *Not at all*
- Yon ti kras- *A little*
- Aseptab - *Quite well*
- Byen - *Well*
- Trè byen - *Very well*

23. Eske w konn non twa branch pouvwa nan peyi a ak wòl yo? Do you know the names of the three branches of power in the country and their roles?

- Wi/ *Yes*
- M pa si / *Not sure*
- Non/*No*

24. Eske w ka fè diferans ant wòl Dirijan sa yo? Can you make a difference between the roles of those elected leaders?

- Lis dirijan pou konpare yo/ *List of leaders to compare*
- a. Majistra / Depite (*Mayors/ member of parliament/ Deputy*)
- b. Depite / Senatè (*MP/Senator*)
- c. Premye minis/ Prezidan (*Prime Minister/ President*)
- d. Majistra/Kazèk (*Mayor/CASEC*)
- e. Kou kasasyon/ Konsèy Siperyè pouvwa Jidisyè a (*Court of Cassation/ Superior Council of the Judiciary Power*)
- f. Delege departmantal /Asec (*City delegate/ Mayor*)

Opsyon repons/ Choices

- Wi/ *Yes*
- M pa si / *Not sure*
- Non/*No*

25. Selon ki kritè ou evalye yon kandida? On what basis do you assess a political candidate?

- Pwogram Politik li / *Political platform*

- Sou sa m gade nan nouvèl nan televizyon/ *News on TV*
- Sa m li nan Atik nan jounal yo/ *Articles in the newspapers*
- Asiste evènman kote kandida a ap adrese moun yo/ *Attend events where the candidate is addressing the people*
- Mwen fè rechèch sou tout kanal yo avan mwen fè chwa mwen/ *I research all the channels before making my choice*
- Sa yo di sou li sou rezososal /*Social media portrayal*
- Selon sa m tande nan legliz/ *What I heard from church*
- Fanmi kandida a/*The family upbringing of the candidate*
- Pati politik li soti/ *Political party*
- Sa m tande nan bouch zanmi ak fanmi/ *what I hear from friends and family*
- Lòt/*Other*

IV. Bezwen ak aksè a Enfòmasyon Politik / Political Information

26. Ki jan ou jwenn enfòmasyon sou politik ak eleksyon?/ How do you get information about politics and elections?

- Nouvèl televizyon/ *Television news broadcasts*
- Pwogram radyo/*Radio programs*
- Jounal ak magazin / *Newspapers and magazines*
- Sitnouvèl sou entènèt(Medya anliy)/ *Online news websites*
- Platfòm medya sosyal/*Social media platforms*
- Rasanbleman ak reyinyon politik/ *Political rallies and meetings*

- Diskisyon ak zanmi ak fanmi/ *Discussions with friends and family*
- Nan legliz
- Lòt/ *Other*

27. Ki sous enfòmasyon ou fè konfyans? What sources of information do you trust?

- Nouvèl televizyon/ *Television news broadcasts*
- Pwogram radyo/ *Radio programs*
- Jounal ak magazin / *Newspapers and magazines*
- Sitnouvèl sou entènèt(Medya anliy)/ *Online news websites*
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Whatsapp
- Rasanbleman ak reyinyon politik/ *Political rallies and meetings*
- Diskisyon ak zanmi ak fanmi/ *Discussions with friends and family*
- Legliz
- Lòt/ *Other*

28. Nan kontèks eleksyon ki gen pou òganize nan peyi a, ki enfòmasyon sou politik peyi a ou plis bezwen pou w ka prepare pou vote? / Ahead of a next election, what information do you need most about the country's politics in order to feel prepared to vote?

- Multiple choices questions
- Politik ak ajanda politik diferan pati yo/ *Policies and political agendas of different parties*

- Istorik ak kalifikasyon kandida politik yo/ *Backgrounds and qualifications of political candidates*
- Dat eleksyon k ap vini yo ak pwosedi/ *Upcoming election dates and procedures*
- Repòtaj ak analiz sou Pèfòmans ak reyalizasyon gouvènman aktyèl la/ *Current government's performance and achievements*
- Detay sou refòm politik ak lejislasyon/ *Details on political reforms and legislation*
- Dwa politik ak patisipasyon sitwayen yo/ *Political rights and citizen participation*
- Relasyon entènasyonal ak politik etranje/ *International relations and foreign policy*
- Politik ekonomik ak enpak yo/ *Economic policies and their impacts*
- Pwoblèm sosyal ak repons gouvènman an/ *Social issues and government responses*

29. Ki bezwen ki pi ijan ou genyen kòm sitwayen? What is your most pressing need as a citizen?

Pick 3 most urgent needs

- Jwenn manje pou mwen ak fanmi m.- *Food for me and my family*
- Sèvis swen sante ak aksè a swen sa yo - *Healthcare services and accessibility*
- Opòtinite travay ak bon travay - *Employment opportunities and job security*
- Edikasyon ak fòmasyon dekalite - *Quality education and training*
- Sekirite - *Security*

- Lojman abòdab - *Affordable housing*
- Pwoteksyon kont katastwof natirel - *Protection against Natural disasters*
- Transpò ak enfrastrikti piblik - *Transportation and infrastructure*
- Aksè a dlo pwòp ak asenisman - *Access to clean water and sanitation*
- Reprèzantasyon politik ak gouvènans - *Political representation and governance*
- Kredi - *Access to credit*
- Lòt (tanpri presize) - *Other (please specify)*

30. Kisa ki ka motive w patisipe nan aktivite politik nan peyi a?" What factors would increase your political participation?

Pick 3

- Plis enfòmasyon aksesib sou pwoblèm yo ak pwopozisyon kandida ak pati politik yo *More accessible information about political issues and political offer from candidates and political parties.*
- Plis prèv transparans ak enfòmasyon fyab bò kote gouvènman an - *Greater transparency and trustworthy information provided by the government*
- Plis opòtinite pou patisipasyon dirèk nan pran desizyon politik - *More opportunities for direct involvement in political decision-making.*
- Politik piblik ak aksyon ki bay rezilta fas a bezwen komi-note mwen an - *Policies and actions that have tangible impact in addressing my community's needs.*
- Pi gwo efò bò kote sosyete sivil la ak medya pou redui

kòripsyon ak Tizanmi nan politik la - *Increased efforts by civil society and media to reduce corruption and political patronage*

- Pi gwo efò bò kote lidè politik ak lidè kominotè yo pou redui kòripsyon ak Tizanmi nan politik la - *Increased efforts by politicians and community leaders to reduce corruption and political patronage*
- Lidè politik nou ka fè konfyans - *Trustworthy leader*
- Plis divèsite ak reprezantasyon nan pwofil moun ki nan politik la - *Better representation of diverse views and interests in politics.*
- Pwosesis vòt ki pi pratik (tankou vòt anliy, jounen vòt ki pi long) - *More convenient voting processes (e.g., online voting, longer voting hours).*
- Edikasyon ak atelye sou angajman sivik ak pwosesis politik - *Education and workshops on civic engagement and political processes.*
- Pi plis aplikasyon lwa kont entimidasyon votè ak fwod elektoral - *Stronger enforcement of laws against voter intimidation and electoral fraud.*
- Plis sekirite - *Improvement in Security situation*
- Lòt - *Other*

31. Kijan jounalis yo ka fè w jwenn pi bon enfòmasyon sou politik peyi a ? / How can journalists provide the best information about the country's politics?

- Fè bon jan ankèt sou sak ap pase nan sosyete a | *Investigations*
- Fè bon jan ankèt sou aktè politik yo | *Political Investigations*
- Fè emisyon ki plis edikatif | *Educational shows*
- Itilize lòt kanall pou bay nouvèl | *New channels for informing people (like social media)*
- Itilize nouvo fòma pou bay nouvèl | *new formats (like videos, audios etc. accessible on website)*
- Bay lòt moun pale ak ekri (pluralism dans les medias) | *Media pluralism*

Mèsi dèske w fin ranpli kesyonè a. Nou trè rekonesan pou tan ou te pran pou ede nan analiz nou pral fè a. N ap gen pou pataje rezilta sa yo avèk tout moun atravè kanal kominikasyon Policite yo. Si w vle kite yon remak pou nou pa ezite ekri nou sou contact@policite.org oswa sou rezososal.

(Thank you for completing the questionnaire. We are very grateful for your time to help with our analysis. We will be sharing these results with everyone through Policite's communication channels. If you would like to leave a comment for us, please do not hesitate to write to us at contact@policite.org or on social media.)

Attachment 2: Demographic Profile of Survey Respondents

Mode of Participation

59% of the participants were interviewed in person, while 41% took the questionnaire online.

Region/Department

The Ouest region had the highest participation rate, while Nippes had the lowest. A majority of respondents, around 30%, are from the Ouest department, which is the most populous area in the country, with an estimated 33.77% of the population in 2015, according to data compiled based on a projection from the statistics bureau IHSI . This region includes the capital city and a major urban center, which could explain its higher representation in the survey.

All other departments had a participation rate between 7% and 10%. Some regions, such as Nippes, had a significantly lower representation, with only 3% of the total respondents. The lower number for Nippes could be due to fewer days spent in the region and less online participation. Other areas, such as Grand'Anse and Nord-Est, had single-digit percentages.

Age of respondents

The population is distributed across different age groups as follows: 18-24 years: 18%, 25-34 years: 37%, 35-44 years: 24%, 45-54 years: 11%, 55-64 years: 6%, and 64+ years: 3%.

Distribution of respondent by age and Gender

More respondents in the age group 18-24 years are women, the only age group with more women than men. More women in the younger age group participated in the survey than in older age groups. As age increases, the proportion of men responding to the survey also increases. This could be seen as a positive trend as it suggests that younger women are more interested in participating in surveys than older women.

For the age group of 18-24, 57% of respondents were women and 43% were men. In the 25-34 age group, the distribution was 48% women and 52% men. Moving to the 35-44 age bracket, women constituted 45% while men represented 55%.

- In the 45-54 age category, the percentage of women was 42%, with men at 58%. For the 55-64 age range, women made up 41% and men 59%. In the 64 or more category, women and men were 41% and 59%, respectively.

Gender

Women make up 48% of the respondents, men make up 52%, and less than 1% identified as "other".

Education

The survey respondents come from diverse educational backgrounds ranging from no formal education to Ph.D. level, with a higher number of respondents having completed a Bachelor's degree or some college education compared to other education levels. Only 5.05% of respondents have completed primary school, while 13.53% have finished secondary education. A significant portion of respondents (20.72%) have achieved a Bachelor's degree, while 12.20% have completed vocational training. 19.59% have attended college, and 3.75% have a Master's degree. Only 0.63% of respondents have attained a Ph.D. level degree. A small fraction of respondents (3.47%) have attended but not completed primary school, while 9.95% have some secondary education but didn't complete it. 4.80% have partially completed vocational education. 6.31% of respondents have no formal education, which includes illiterate individuals.

Distribution of Respondent by education and gender

The distribution of education levels among men and women is relatively balanced. Both men and women are almost equally likely to have completed primary school, but men slightly outnumber women in completing secondary school and vocational diplomas. The percentage of men and women with Bachelor's degrees is also equal.

More women have attended but not completed primary school, while more men have some secondary school education. College attendance without completion is slightly higher among women. At the advanced degree level, slightly more women hold Ph.D. degrees, whereas more men hold Master's degrees. A higher number of women than men have no formal education.

Religion

Do you identify with a particular religion?

The survey participants belong to a diverse religious landscape. More than half of the respondents (66%) identify with mainstream Christian denominations, namely Protestant and Catholic. Voodoo makes up 8.5% of the participants. A substantial percentage, 20%, do not associate with any religion, indicating a non-religious demographic. Among the participants, the largest group identifies as Protestant, comprising 37%. The second-largest group is Catholic, with 29% of respondents. A smaller segment, comprising 5.3% of respondents, identifies with an "Other" religion.

Employment Status

Respondents are distributed across different employment status types, but there are more unemployed (38.17%) and almost as many employed (35.96%)

Out of all the respondents, the largest category constitutes 38.17% of the total and includes those who are currently unemployed. Close to this figure, 35.96% are employed full-time, while 15.39% work part-time. Students who are not part of the workforce make up 10.13% of the respondents. Less than 1% of the participants are retired.

Disability

Do you live with any disabilities that you would like to disclose?

Disability is not prevalent among the respondents. The majority, 91%, indicated that they have no disability. Only Around 10% of the respondents reported having some form of disability, which represented a variety of impairment types. Physical and visual impairments were the most commonly disclosed types of disabilities. Of the respondents, 3% reported having a physical handicap not specified as requiring a wheelchair, 3% reported having a visual impairment, 2% reported having an "other" type of handicap, 1% reported having a physical handicap requiring a wheelchair, and 1% reported having a hearing impairment.

Economic Status

How would you describe your economic situation?

42% of the respondents indicated that their economic condition was "very difficult" "challenging." Another 36% said they were "getting by". 18% reported that they "manage barely." Less than 1% of the respondents considered themselves "well-off."

Place of Residence

How do you describe your place of residence?

The survey respondents come from different living environments, with slightly more residing in urban areas, followed by residents living in peri-urban areas. This could be due to the trend towards urbanization or the survey reaching more urban populations. Almost half of the respondents, 49.28%, live in urban areas. Over a third of the respondents, 36.31%, describe their living situation as peri-urban, which usually refers to areas located on the outskirts of urban cities. A smaller fraction of respondents, 14.41%, identified their residence as rural.

Trust in the electoral process & mode of participation

- **Never Trusted Election Process:** There is an almost equal division among those who have never trusted the electoral process, with a slight majority taking the survey in person (52.5%).
- **Uncertainty about Trust:** Most of those uncertain about their trust in the electoral process took the survey in person (60%).
- **Do Not Trust Election Process:** Most who do not trust the process also took the survey in person (60%).
- **Conditional Distrust:** People who do not trust the electoral process under the current government are more likely to have taken the survey in person (64%).
- **Trust in Election Process:** Interestingly, those who trust the electoral process are more likely to have participated online (58%). There is a concern that in-person people could have said what they think is politically correct. This finding doesn't confirm it.

Mode of participation and belief in democracy

- **Never Believed in Democracy:** 73.3% of respondents participated in-person, while 26.7% participated online.
- **Indifferent to Democracy (Neither Yes nor No):** 84.9% of respondents participated in-person, while 15.1% participated online.
- **Do Not Believe in Democracy:** 73.7% of respondents participated in-person, while 26.3% participated online.
- **Believe in Democracy but not as it is in Haiti:** 52.6% of respondents participated online, while 47.4% participated in-person.
- **Believe in Democracy:** 51.5% of respondents participated online, while 48.5% participated in-person.

There is a concern that in-person people could have said what they think is politically correct. This finding doesn't confirm it as more people who participated in-person said they have never believed in democracy.

ASSESSMENT OF CITIZEN NEEDS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HAITI

