

June is Caribbean-American Heritage Month

Source: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/pr/about/civilrights/?cid=nrcseprd1331869>



Caribbean Heritage Month commemoration was adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2005 to recognize the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States. The resolution passed the Senate in Feb. 2006 and President George H.W. Bush issued the proclamation in June 2006.

Since the declaration, the White House has issued an annual proclamation recognizing June as Caribbean-American Heritage Month. This year marks the thirteenth anniversary of June as National Caribbean American Heritage Month.

This year's theme is ***Our Shared History, Our Shared Future***. The commemoration of Caribbean American Heritage Month aims to remind Americans that our greatness lies in our diversity. Caribbean immigrants from founding father, Alexander Hamilton, to journalist, Malcolm Gladwell, have helped to shape the American dream.

Census Quick Facts

As of June 2018, the Caribbean-American population of the United States was almost **13.2 million** (note that these populations are not mutually exclusive, as people may be of more than one ancestry or ethnic group).

Some of the largest Caribbean ancestry groups in the U.S. include:

- **5.8 million** Puerto Ricans
- **2.4 million** Cubans
- **2.0 million** Dominicanos
- **1.1 million** Jamaicans
- **1 million** Haitians
- **208,000** Trinidadians and Tobagonians
- **68,000** Bajans
- **63,000** Belizeans
- **54,000** Bahamians
- **19,000** U.S. Virgin Islanders

According to the Institute of Caribbean Studies, "Caribbean immigrants have been contributing to the well-being of American society since its founding. Alexander Hamilton, the First Secretary of the Treasury was from the Caribbean island of Nevis. We count among our famous sons and daughters, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Cicely Tyson, W.E.B. Dubois, James Weldon Johnson, Harry Belafonte and Sidney Poitier to name a few. ICS' effort began in 1999 with a petition to President Bill Clinton for the recognition of a Caribbean American Heritage Month.



June 2021 Calendar

*National LGBTQ Pride Month
Caribbean-American Heritage Month*

- 2 - National Gun Violence Awareness Day (US)
- 6 - National Cancer Survivor Day (US)
- 14-20 - Men's Health Week (US)
- 14 - Flag Day (US)
- 15 - International Elder Abuse Awareness Day
- 16 - Guru Arjan Martyrdom (Sikh)
- 20 - Father's Day (International)
- 20 - Pentecost (Orthodox Christian)
- 22 - Litha - Yule (Wicca/Pagan)

Survey finds remote simultaneous interpreting ‘more difficult’ for 83% of interpreters

by Seyma Albarino

Source: https://slator.com/industry-news/remote-simultaneous-interpreting-more-difficult-for-83-of-interpreters-survey-finds/?fbclid=IwAR3DnwNDexXGA-qIGBWe92ZLcYXIC2uJyEI8_Xjzi_oHoD6d5D3Kyyw96VL8

The European Commission’s Knowledge Centre on Interpretation has shared the initial results from a survey carried out by Paris-based École supérieure d’interprètes et de traducteurs (ESIT). The research project, led by ESIT instructor Camille Collard and freelance conference interpreter Marta Bujan, was aimed at quantitatively understanding the experiences of conference interpreters with remote simultaneous interpreting (RSI). Collard and Bujan collected responses between March 10 and April 11, 2021, just over a year after the pandemic began to significantly impact the working lives of interpreters around the world.

ESIT described the over 850 professional interpreters in 19 countries who responded to the survey as “representing both staff and freelance interpreters working for the private market, international organizations, European institutions, and public administrations.” Within the language industry, conference interpreters have undoubtedly been hit the hardest by the pandemic. A majority (68%) reported working fewer days during the pandemic, and almost half (46%) said they now have fewer clients.

RSI has been a saving grace for many, allowing conference interpreters to continue their work, albeit with significant modifications. For the clients and assignments that interpreters have been able to keep, work setups have changed quickly and dramatically. Nearly 80% of respondents reported working exclusively on-site for simultaneous interpreting tasks prior to the pandemic. Now, only 3% of respondents said all their simultaneous interpreting takes place on-site. Interpreters reported struggling to adjust to the new normal, with over 67% of respondents stating that RSI working conditions are worse than on-site. Fifty percent of respondents said they perform worse via RSI. Overall, 83% said they consider RSI “more difficult” than on-site interpreting.

Collard and Bujan were heartened to learn that, “in keeping with industry recommendations, sessions (periods of work without a break longer than 30 minutes) are shorter for three-fourths of interpreters when working via RSI.” Almost half of respondents (49%) said an average session lasts two hours, while 42% reported three-hour sessions. Most respondents (63%) work just one session per day, while a third typically work two sessions daily.

The ZOOM interpreting feature is the leading platform among respondents—over 70% said they have used it for more than half of their RSI assignments. The other platforms that are used most frequently include Interprefy (7%), Interactio (6%), and KUDO (5%). Despite the challenges involved, most respondents (64%) said they would like to continue working on RSI assignments.

“Of course, this overview of the results is only the first step, and many questions not covered here deserve a more thorough qualitative analysis,” Collard said. “Having a closer look at the links between interpreters’ profiles and their conditions or thoughts will help us have a better understanding of the current situation.”



New Staff Profile: Alejandra Avalos

Alejandra Avalos is the newest team member of the UCDH Spanish-speaking medical interpreter team. Alejandra was born and raised in Sacramento. She learned Spanish at home from her family. She graduated from Sacramento State University with a degree in Biology. She learned interpreting over time, and her passion for helping people and medicine got her interested in medical interpreting as a profession. Alejandra is glad to be able to give back to the community that she came from.

In her spare time, Alejandra loves reading, writing, running and practicing yoga. She also really enjoys hiking and being in nature. She has a sweet little puppy named Esty (half Jack Russel terrier, half chihuahua) who also enjoys nature.

After her first month at UCDH, Alejandra says: “I really enjoy this job because it gives me the opportunity to learn something new every day, and I love being able to help others!” Welcome on board, Alejandra!