



# ABOUT CMI'S LGBT RESEARCH PRACTICE

Founded in 1992, Community Marketing & Insights (CMI) is a full-service market research firm, focused on LGBT insights and analytics.

Market research studies and resulting insights and action items are meant to help marketers understand the LGBT communities, and influence sales, marketing and outreach decisions. However, not all research is the same. Community Marketing & Insights' (CMI) methodologies and experience are distinct from other research companies when considering approaches, survey respondent sources—and ultimately—the validity and utility of sought-after results.

Community Marketing & Insights (CMI) has been conducting LGBT consumer research for over 20 years. Our practice includes online surveys, in-depth interviews, intercepts, focus groups (on-site and online), and advisory boards in North America, Europe and Asia. Industry leaders around the world depend on CMI's research and analysis as a basis for feasibility evaluations, positioning, economic impact, creative testing, informed forecasting, product development, measurable marketing planning and assessment of return on investment.

CMI's research findings have been published in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, Chicago Tribune, Miami Herald, CBS News, CNN, NPR, Reuters, Associated Press and many other international, national and regional media.

CMI's research and corporate training clients span the globe, and include leaders from a wide range of industries. CMI studies have been produced for these and many other B2B and B2C brands: Aetna, Inc.; Prudential Financial; Wells Fargo; DIRECTV, LLC; Viacom/Logo; Johnson & Johnson; WNBA; Hallmark Cards, Inc.; Target Brands; E&J Gallo Winery; Gilead Pharmaceuticals; Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate; The Walt Disney Company; TELUS Corporation; Hyatt Hotels Corporation; Hawaiian Airlines; NYC & Company; Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority; VISIT FLORIDA; Canadian Tourism Commission; Tourism Office of Spain; Japan National Tourism Organization; U.S. Census Bureau; Centers for Disease Control; American Cancer Society; Kaiser Family Foundation; University of Pennsylvania; City University of New York; and numerous other corporations, universities and organizations across North America and around the world.

## ABOUT THE CMI RESEARCH PANEL

Over the past 20 years, CMI has developed the world's most community-representative panel for a variety of LGBT research methodologies. Corporations, government agencies, non-profits, universities and other research firms all utilize CMI's panel resources because of its size and flexibility. CMI can assist with research projects requiring thousands of participants, and we can deliver on smaller projects requiring targeted segments within LGBT. For example, CMI was able to recruit for projects needing 1,200 men living with HIV, 200 LGBT African American Millennials in urban U.S.A., and 750 transgender community members. We also produce qualitative projects that are challenging—or impossible—for other research groups to achieve.

CMI has developed our panel through authentic partnership and trust within the LGBT community. CMI never uses the panel for sales or marketing purposes. Panel members have the direct email addresses of their project's Research Director. We protect panelist confidentiality, and we respond to study questions, concerns and feedback within 24 hours. Since CMI is a specialized LGBT-owned and operated company, established over 20 years ago, we have earned a level of confidence and trust that can only come from being members of the community. As distinct from other panel approaches, we actually have a very personal relationship with our panelists, who are willing to open up and honestly share genuine experiences, sensitivities, opinions and motivations with us. They know that the results from the research will be used for the betterment of the LGBT community.

### CMI'S PANEL CONSISTS OF OVER 70,000 SELF-IDENTIFYING LGBT COMMUNITY MEMBERS, WHICH INCLUDES:

- 50,000 LGBT panelists in the United States
- 6,500 LGBT Canadians (includes English and French speaking)
- 4,500 LGBT Chinese
- Capabilities in the UK, Germany, Australia and other countries

### IN THE UNITED STATES, THE PANEL HAS SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS IN EVERY LGBT SEGMENT

- 20,000 lesbian and bisexual women
- 30,000 gay and bisexual men
- 1,500 transgender community members
- 5,000 bisexual community members
- 5,000 with income over \$150,000
- 5,000 with income below \$25,000
- 15,000 representing LGBT communities of color
- 15,000 LGBT Millennials
- Thousands of men living with HIV (Note: All health-related data is maintained independent of personally identifying information)
- Participants in all 50 states with ZIP code-level geographic targeting capability
- 10,000 with a master's degree or better
- 3,000 LGBT parents with a child under 18 living at home
- 5,000 legally married same-sex couples
- Experience with LGBT youth research (in partnership with an institution and IRB approval)

## CMI'S LGBT STRATEGIC PLANNING & CORPORATE TRAINING

**CONSULTING:** Evaluating your opportunities and strengths based on research findings, strategic consulting identifies brand and product positions that can lead to maximum success and return on investment. We'll also assess your corporate policies and practices—crucial to LGBT loyalty. LGBT consumers tend to vote with their wallets: they favor good corporate/community citizens.

**TRAINING:** The Community Marketing team has developed and presented custom on-site training for a wide variety of companies and organizations exploring their opportunities in the LGBT community. The trainings may include topics ranging from a basic introduction to the LGBT community, research, case studies and marketing opportunities...to diversity/sensitivity training best practices...to sales training and customer service.

*LGBT Community Survey and Community Marketing are registered trademarks of Community Marketing, Inc.*

*Minority/Diversity Procurement: Community Marketing, Inc. is an NGLCC-Certified LGBT-Owned Business Enterprise.*



## CONTACT US

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# LGBT Market Research:

*There is a difference!*

LGBT research is meant to help marketers understand the LGBT community, and make educated decisions about strategies and tactics to reach them. Not all research is the same, however. At **Community Marketing & Insights**, we leverage unique experience, methodologies and our own proprietary panel to generate the valid and actionable results that our clients depend on.

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## CMI'S PROPRIETARY PANEL: WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

Community Marketing & Insights (CMI) has recruited for our proprietary consumer panel over the past 20+ years by partnering with over 300 LGBT media, organizations, events and social media throughout the USA, Canada, the UK, Germany, Australia, China and beyond. The panel is thus highly representative of LGBT consumers who interact with the LGBT community and media.

CMI research is trusted by—and frequently quoted in—The New York Times, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, Miami Herald, Forbes, Ad Week, NPR, CNN, CBS News, Associated Press, etc.

*Other research providers typically send out widely distributed panel invitations (via Yahoo, etc.), and then sort for those who trust the researcher enough to indicate in a survey that they are gay or lesbian. They may also use lists from one or two LGBT publishers, which is likely to skew results.*

*If you are a marketer looking for valid LGBT consumer insights about products, services, or advertising creative and marketing strategies, “general market” panel development approaches are not likely to yield LGBT community members who interact with the media where you are placing ads.*

## CMI'S QUANTITATIVE SURVEYS: SIZE DOES MATTER

CMI has conducted hundreds of LGBT-dedicated quantitative surveys since the early 1990s, covering a wide variety of topics, industries and interests. Through these studies, we both observe and influence the trends of this market.

Size does matter when it comes to surveys. Our panel has grown to over 70,000 qualified LGBT consumers—the largest of its kind, by far. Our Annual LGBT Community Survey® study has attracted up to 45,000 survey participants representing 150 countries, making it the largest such study in the world. We leverage our long history, experience and expertise to guide you, fine-tuning our portfolio of research panels, methodologies and approaches to best match your market intelligence goals.

If your communications channels are via the LGBT media, you'll want to depend on research that represents these consumers' interests, preferences, sensitivities and motivations.

*Without access to this enormous resource of qualified LGBT consumer panelists, other companies have to compromise on the quality and demographic representation of their panel—or “reinvent the wheel” at your expense.*

*It's not possible to fathom the diversity and complexities within LGBT (see below) through a small sample. And with small samples, you lose the opportunity to derive statistically-significant crosstabs based on gender, geographical location, age, income, experience, product choice, etc. Can you really make the assumption that a Millennial lesbian couple in Seattle has the same purchasing motivations and behaviors as a 67-year-old gay man in Atlanta? Generalities and sweeping statements about “the LGBT market” based on comparatively small samples can distort the validity of research findings, wasting your investment of time and resources.*

## LGBT PANEL DIVERSITY IS IMPERATIVE, BECAUSE THERE IS NO “LGBT MARKET”

Community Marketing & Insights emphasizes that there is no “gay market,” just as there is no single “Asian market.” The LGBT communities represent a broad and dynamic spectrum of interests, sensitivities, preferences and priorities. Add to that variations in geographical location, age, income, relationship status, gender identity and more, and it becomes essential to discover which opportunities within LGBT will help you achieve your goals. Fine-tuning your approaches based on highly refined, well-targeted matches within LGBT will make your outreach initiatives more efficient and cost-effective, optimizing your marketing investment.

*General market surveys that may include a small subset of “the gay community” just scratch the surface of the diverse and varied of opportunities marketers can enjoy if properly explored and understood.*

## GET A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY: QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

For over two decades, CMI has produced the most consistent, longest-running series of LGBT community surveys in the world. But we don't stop there. Quantitative (data) research is important, but it's just one side of the coin. Our full range of research services uncover the rest of the story through qualitative research, most notably derived from focus groups.

We pre-qualify our focus group participants from among our survey panelists, identifying the best candidates based on characteristics such as age, gender, relationship status, geographical location, and even a propensity or history of using the client's products or services. We maintain sufficient numbers of panelists to conduct groups in most major metro areas across the USA, Canada, UK, Germany, Australia and China, as well as many other markets. Sometimes the same creative, tested in different regions, can yield different perspectives. Isn't it wise to know that—and adjust your plans—before investing in marketing campaigns?

CMI is the only LGBT-dedicated research provider that produces and facilitates qualitative research, including focus group studies (both in-person and online), in-depth interviews, online communities and advisory boards, which can round out a comprehensive market intelligence plan.

*By producing online surveys only, other research companies are telling only half of the story...at best. Without actual consumer interaction, they cannot fathom the deeper insights hiding behind the bar graphs and pie charts. Nor can they adequately advise you on the sensitivities and complexities that can only be uncovered by qualitative research—extremely important considerations that averages and assumptions extrapolated from survey statistics are likely to miss.*

## IN-HOUSE EVERYTHING. WE DON'T OUTSOURCE!

Community Marketing & Insights maintains our own research panels and utilizes advanced, sophisticated research software. We conduct all of our research in-house—because nobody knows this market segment as well as we do.

*Unlike many other firms, CMI will never sell or represent another research company's services. Nor will we outsource your projects and report on the results of a third party's work. Without being intimately involved in every aspect of a project—discussing client goals, designing the study, building and implementing the survey, and engaging directly with consumers in focus groups—it is difficult to gain the insights that we regularly deliver. CMI's hands-on LGBT research specialization spanning over two decades is unmatched.*

## VALUE FOR THE INVESTMENT

You might think that with this kind of specialization and experience, you'd have to invest considerably more for Community Marketing & Insights services than for research from other companies. With our specific focus on LGBT market intelligence, however, and the cumulative 60+ years of LGBT-dedicated experience among the CMI team, we're able to keep your costs low. We don't spend your money locating qualified survey or focus group participants, and we won't waste time trying to source comparative data or case studies. We've already done all that, for your benefit, over the past 20+ years.

*At CMI, we're not running a large operation juggling many accounts and projects with varied focus. Our client dedication and LGBT market specialization delivers you superior intelligence at a fraction of the cost.*

## WE ARE TRUSTED. WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT:

Community Marketing, Inc., founded in 1992, pioneered LGBT consumer research. Because our company is LGBT-owned and -operated, and well known in the community, we have earned the recognition and trust of our survey panelists. LGBT consumers recognize that we use research data to build corporate relationships that ultimately lead to social progress, better conditions for LGBT employees, and more sensitive communications.

## PROUDLY LGBT-OWNED AND -OPERATED

One of the questions in HRC's Corporate Equality Index application is whether the applicant company includes LGBT-owned suppliers when sourcing products and services. When you contract with Community Marketing & Insights, you not only gain the benefit of our long-standing leadership in this field, you are working with one of the world's only LGBT-owned market research providers. Community Marketing, Inc. is an NGLCC Certified LGBT-Owned Business Enterprise.

## AND PROUD OF OUR COMMUNITY CITIZENSHIP

CMI is involved in the LGBT community: We volunteer time, donate resources and raise funds for numerous community-based organizations. We also participate in leading business and advocacy organizations, events and conferences within the community, such as Out & Equal, HRC, National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, GLAAD, NCLR and the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association. Our community connection is not only the right thing to do, it is essential for maintaining authentic community relationships to benefit our clients.

*Proud to serve these and other companies, organizations, universities, government institutions and researchers with*

**LGBT Community Studies,  
Strategic Consulting and Corporate Training**  
*since 1992*

				
				
				
				
				
				
				
				