



# GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION

Health Inequities in a Pandemic: The Data and Response  
May 20, 2020

**Isabel Barrios**  
Program Officer



GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION 

### Housekeeping Notes

- All audience members are muted
- Please use the **Q&A Feature** to submit questions
- If you experience any technology or internet issues, please dial **1-312-626-6799**, the webinar ID is **938 3553 7794**. This will allow you to listen in to the presentation.
- This webinar is being recorded and will be emailed after the session

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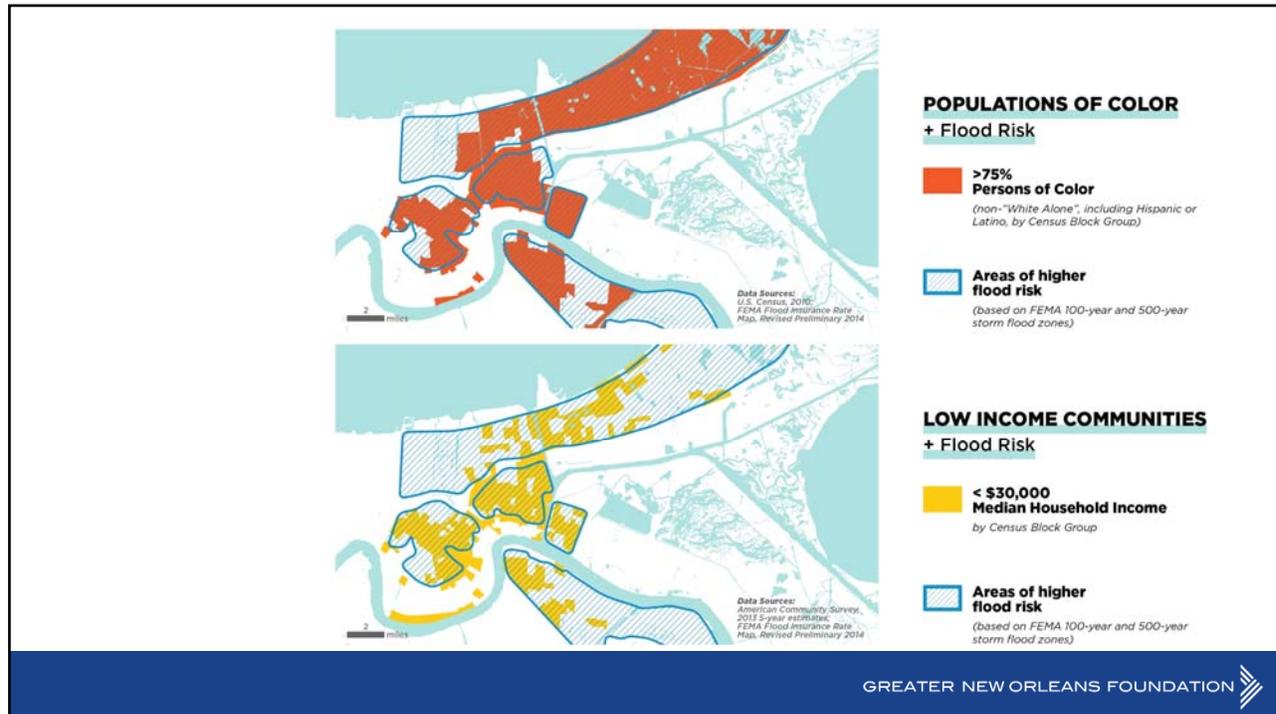
GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION  
**RESPONSE &  
RESTORATION  
FUND**

GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION 



GNOF disaster recovery and resilience investments	
2005	Katrina and Rita
2007-2014	Community Revitalization Fund
2010	BP Oil Spill
2013 - present	Urban Water Initiatives and Coastal Investments
2016	Baton Rouge Floods
2017 (February)	New Orleans East Tornadoes
2017 (fall)	Harvey, Irma and Maria
2018 (fall)	Florence and Michael
2019	Barry and Dorian
2020	Puerto Rico earthquakes and COVID-19

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## GNOF COVID-19 Response

- Activation of Disaster Response and Restoration Fund with \$1,260,000 granted to date with \$700,000 of those funds going to health organizations
- Nonprofit survey for upcoming State of the Sector report
- Service and Hospitality Assistance Program which has granted \$573,000 to individual households
- Activation of Town Hall meetings with 17 learning opportunities offered to date
- PPE donations
- Coordination with the Mayor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
- Communication and coordination with other philanthropies, nonprofits and donors

## Meet Our Experts



Lamar Gardere, BS, MSCS  
Executive Director  
The Data Center



Ayame Dinkler  
Chief Administrative Officer  
LCMC Health



Shelina Davis, MPH, MSW  
Chief Executive Officer  
Louisiana Public Health Institute

GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION 



THE DATA CENTER  
Independent Analysis for Informed Decisions in Southeast Louisiana

# COVID-19 Data

## Pandemic and Economic Data

Presented by:

Lamar Gardere, Executive Director  
[lamarg@datacenterresearch.org](mailto:lamarg@datacenterresearch.org)

5/22/2020



# About Us

The **Data Center** is the most trusted resource for data about greater New Orleans and Southeast Louisiana. Founded in 1997, we provide fully independent research and analysis to offer a comprehensive look at issues that matter most to our region. Our work makes available a toolbox of fact-driven, well-researched data that moves beyond anecdotal experiences to uncover root causes for our region's challenges. With a mission of democratizing data, The Data Center has, and continues to be, an objective partner in bringing reliable, thoroughly researched data to conversations about building a more prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable region.

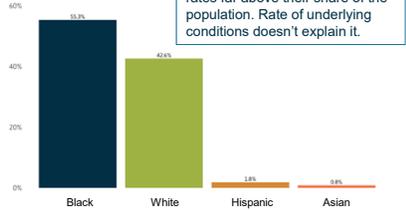


**THE DATA CENTER**  
Independent Analysis for Informed Decisions in Southeast Louisiana

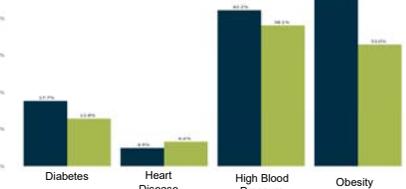
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**Disasters tend to exacerbate existing trends. Accordingly, black Louisianans have so far been most impacted by COVID-19, dying at a higher rate and being more at risk of losing their job.**

**Race of COVID-19 related deaths in Louisiana**  
5/18/2020



Black Louisianans are dying at rates far above their share of the population. Rate of underlying conditions doesn't explain it.



**Unemployment insurance initial weekly claims over the past 12 months**  
Advance state claims through Saturday, May 9, 2020 (not seasonally adjusted)

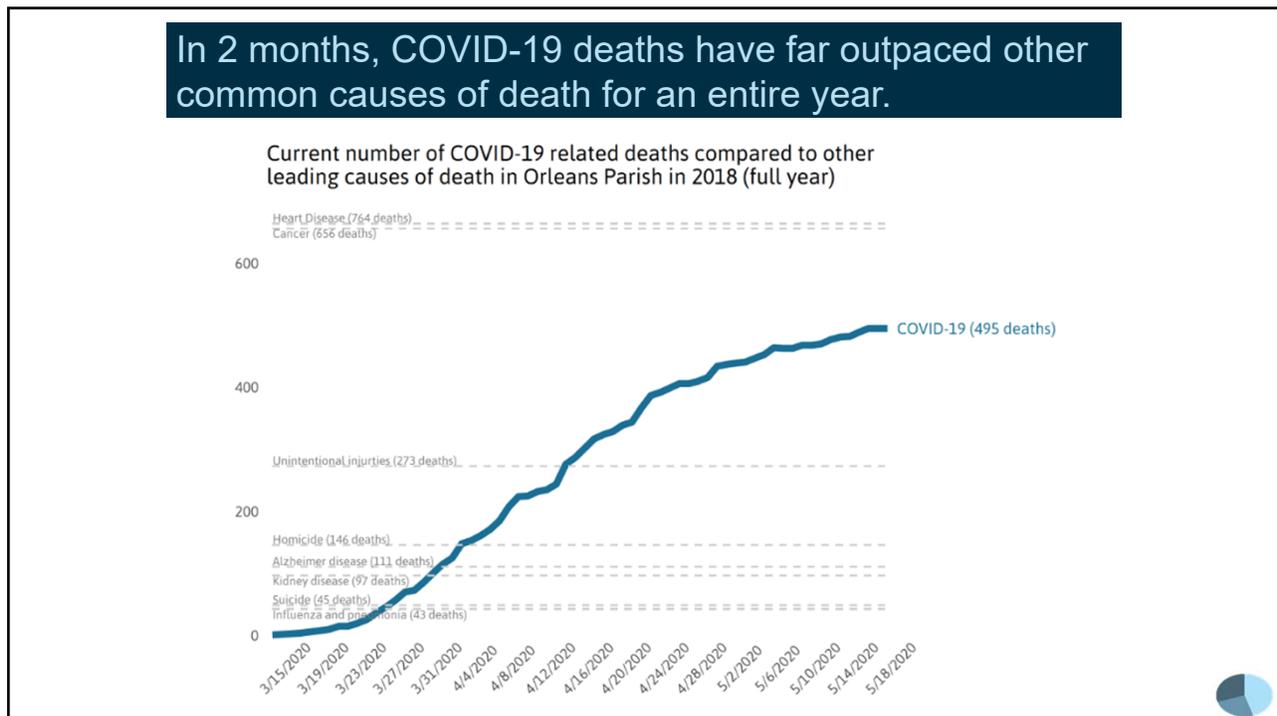
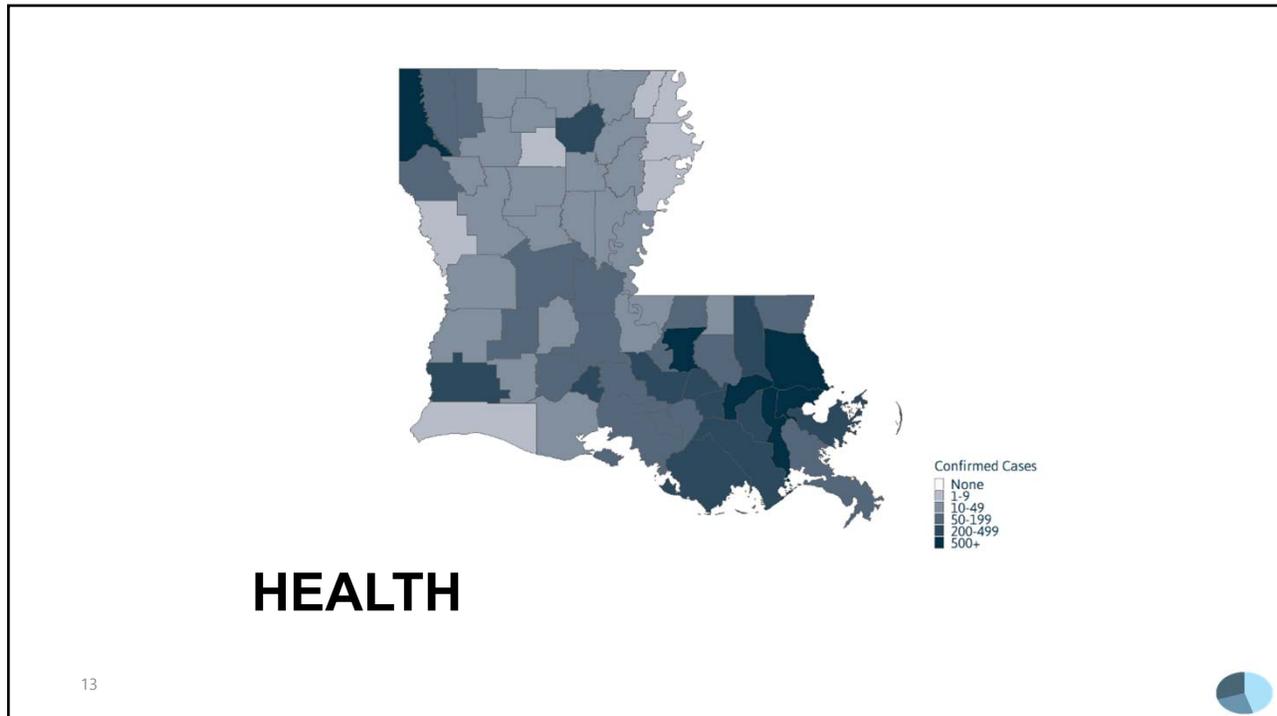
**Most at Risk**

- Black
- Renters
- Below 200% of FPL
- Part-time work
- Median annual wages of \$20,768
- Less likely to hold a bachelor's degree



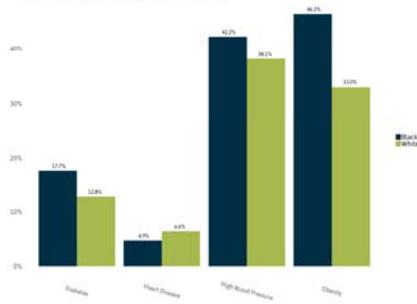
Equitable response and recovery to COVID-19 will be as vital to our region as it has been for Katrina.





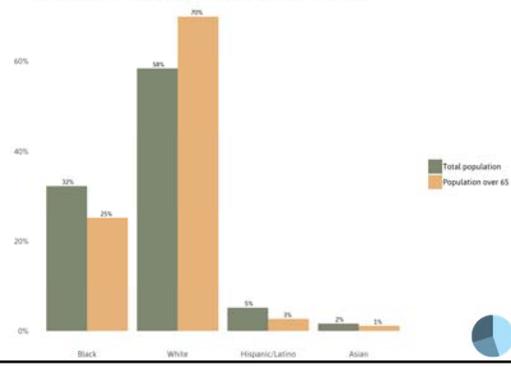
## Gap in racial make-up of deaths remains unexplained.

Prevalence of selected conditions in Louisiana



Only 32 percent of Louisiana's population is black, while 58 percent is white. Among adults over 65 years of age, the riskiest age group for COVID-19 fatalities, only 25 percent of Louisiana's population over 65 is black, compared to 70 percent white.

Percent of total population and population over 65 by race in Louisiana

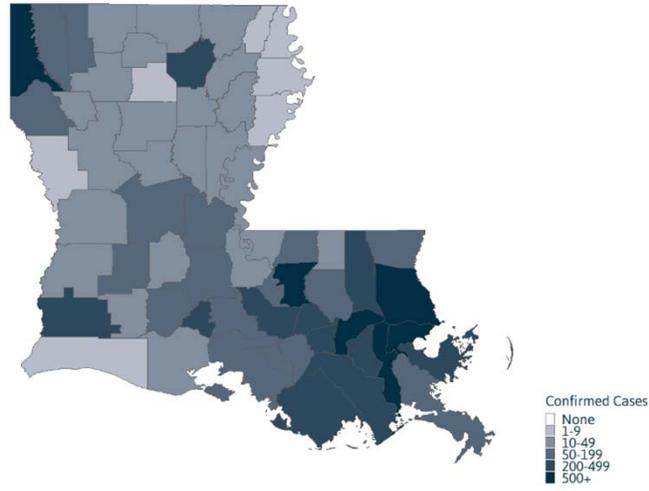


- When racial breakdowns were first released, COVID-19 deaths were 70% black and around 28% white
- Since, black deaths have decreased 15 percentage points and white deaths have increased 15 percentage points
- For the week of 5/18, it is 55% black and 43% white
- 1.8% Hispanic, though ethnicity is marked "unknown" for 15% of deaths

Data on deaths as of May 5 from the Coroner's Office in New Orleans shows the significance of group quarters in this pandemic. It also suggests we should be paying more attention to how consistent exposure to the virus affects outcomes.

Nursing homes or adult residential		
Count	91	19.7%
Race/Ethnicity		
White	52	57.1%
African American / Black	36	39.6%
Hispanic	1	1.1%
Vietnamese	1	1.1%
Asian	0	0.0%
unspecified	0	0.0%
other	0	0.0%
unknown	1	1.1%
Gender		
Male	54	59.3%
Female	37	40.7%

General Public (not nursing homes)		
Count	370	80.3%
Race/Ethnicity		
White	35	9.5%
African American / Black	321	86.8%
Hispanic	8	2.1%
Vietnamese	0	0.0%
Asian	2	0.5%
unspecified	1	0.3%
other	1	0.3%
unknown	2	0.5%
Gender		
Male	208	56.2%
Female	162	43.8%



## ECONOMICS

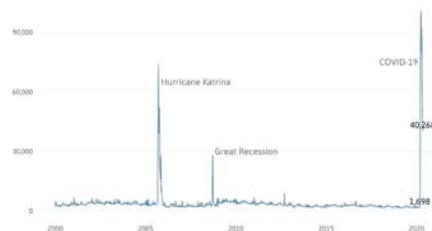
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## Unemployment claims have surpassed anything seen in recent memory in Louisiana

- For the week ending May 9<sup>th</sup> those initial weekly claims were just over 40,000.
- Job losses far exceeded even the weeks after Hurricane Katrina.
- Based on 2019 employment levels, 19% of the metro area's workforce filed a UI claim in the first three weeks of disruption.
  - By contrast, 12% the State's total workforce filed a UI claim
  - The New Orleans metro has 28% of the state employment base, but at the time constituted 39% of the UI claims

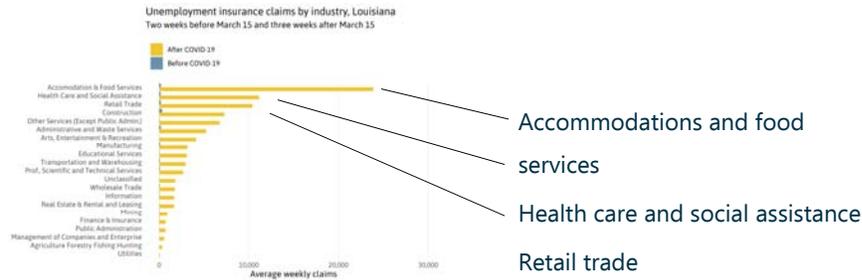
Unemployment insurance initial weekly claims in Louisiana since 2000  
Advance state claims through Saturday, May 09, 2020 (not seasonally adjusted)



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## Data on unemployment at the parish level show the biggest losses in three sectors over the first 3 weeks



By percentage, three industries saw over 30% of their workforce file unemployment insurance claims in the first 3 week.

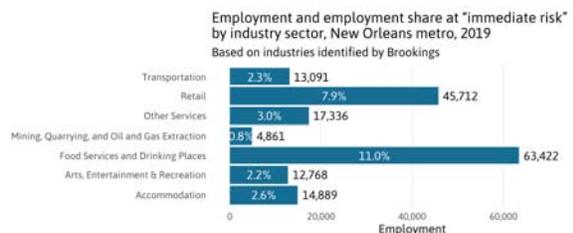
- **Other services** (equipment and machinery repairing, promoting or administering religious activities, grantmaking, advocacy, and providing drycleaning and laundry services, personal care services, death care services, pet care services, photofinishing services, temporary parking services, and dating services)
- **Accommodations and food services**
- **Arts, entertainment, and recreation**

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## Because of the nature of our regional economy we are at significant risk of continued job loss.

- 30% of the New Orleans metro workforce is at immediate risk
- Only 3 other metros were at higher risk:
  - Las Vegas, Orlando, and Oklahoma City
- The largest industries in our metro that are at immediate risk of continued loss are:
  - Food services, drinking places and accommodations
  - Retail
  - Arts and recreation
  - Transportation



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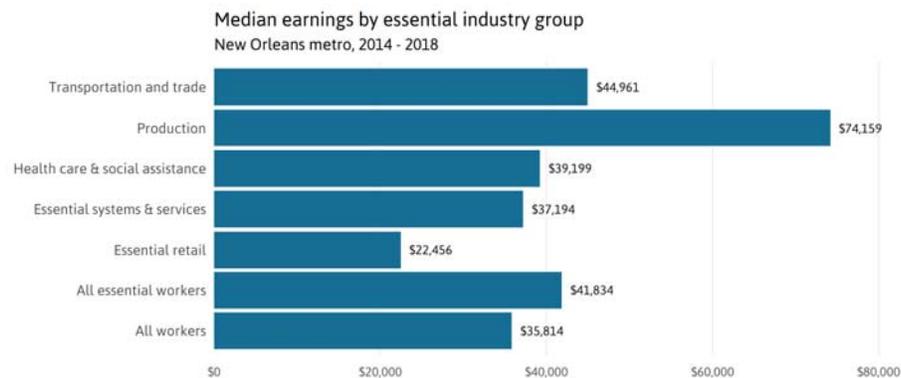
## Just over half of our occupations possess characteristics that would reduce susceptibility to layoffs

- About 52% of the workforce is in a low-risk occupation.
- Workers in low risk occupations:
  - can likely work from home
  - are essential
  - or are in some other low-risk salaried position (such as teachers).
- Occupation groups with the most extensive risk of job loss tend to:
  - include lower-earning jobs
  - be less amenable to home-based work

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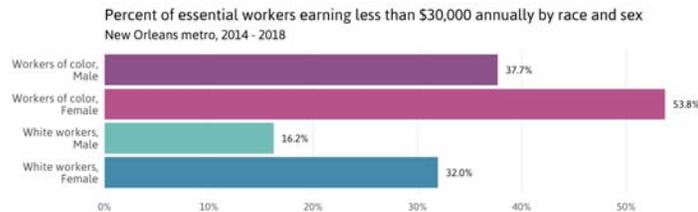
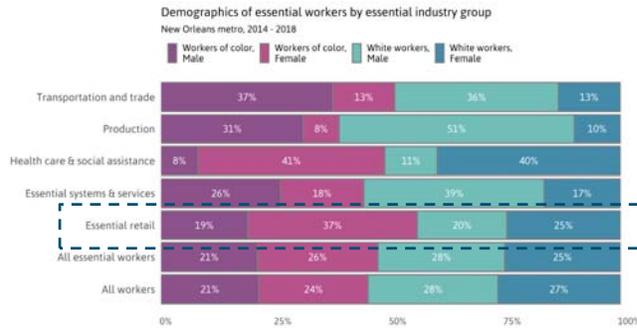
## Workers in essential industry groups tend to have higher wages, but Essential Retail falls well below the average.



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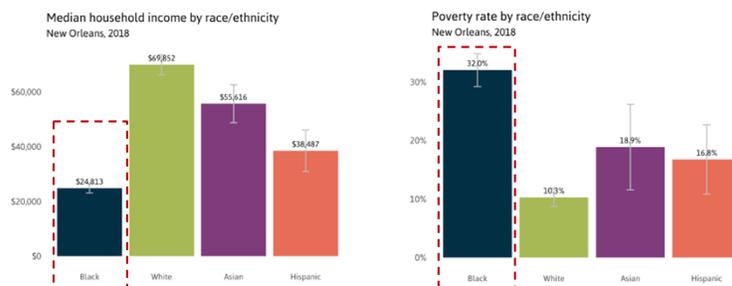
Essential workers of colors are over-represented in industry groups such as Essential Retail, many earning less than \$30k.



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Virus risks may be more tied to exposure than race or ethnicity, but in New Orleans, vulnerability to COVID-19 is paired with generations of accumulated inequity.

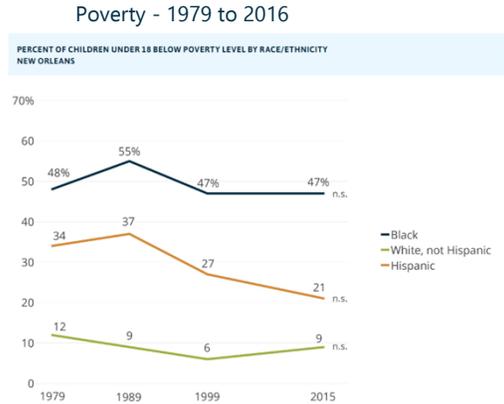
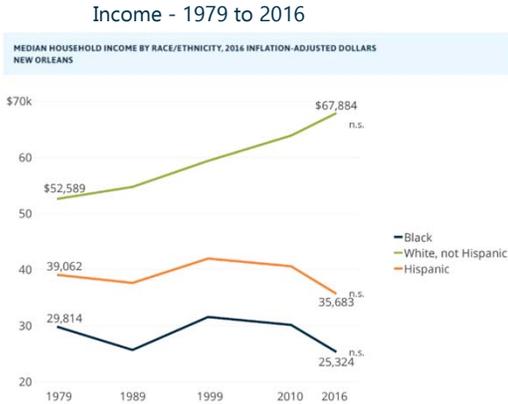
According to available data, African Americans are bearing the brunt of COVID-19 health and economic hardships, yet low income levels make this group particularly vulnerable.



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Virus risks are tied to exposure not race or ethnicity, but in New Orleans, vulnerability to COVID-19 is paired with generations of accumulated inequity.

These vulnerabilities have been in place for at least the last 40 years.

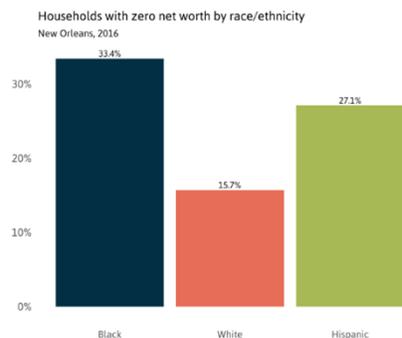
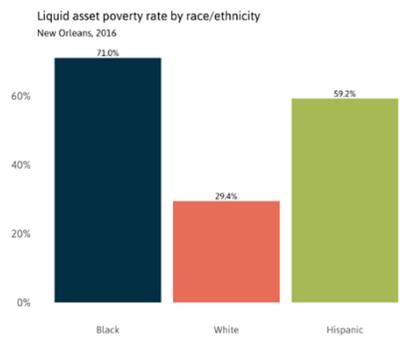


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Persistent income disparities have contributed to low levels of household net worth and liquid assets for black households.

When a large share of a community does not have sufficient savings, it can have severe implications for residents who have been laid off or who bear unexpected health costs. Not having sufficient savings can make the decision to not work impractical. Black New Orleanians are nearly 2.5x more likely to be in liquid asset poverty and more than twice as likely to be in a household with 0 net worth than their white peers.

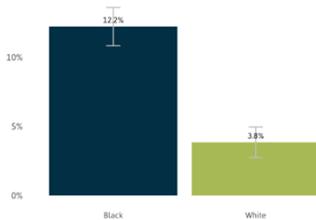


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Overcrowding is most common among low-income families. An overcrowded house means those who are COVID-19 positive and those showing symptoms may not have the ability to self-quarantine within the house to avoid infecting others.

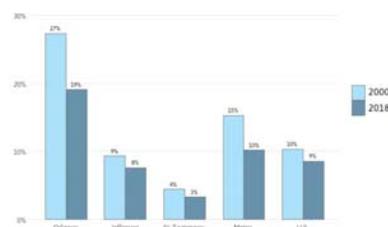
Percent of people 60+ living in a multigenerational household by race/ethnicity  
New Orleans, 2012-2018



Grandparents were advised to isolate from grandchildren, but when grandparents do live with grandchildren, their exposure to COVID may be increased. In New Orleans, black people 60 years or older are more than 3x more likely to live in multigenerational households than their white peers.

Public testing was initially only available through drive-up testing, but New Orleans has a lower level of households with access to a vehicle. Testing may have been unavailable to many early on.

Households without access to a vehicle



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In addition to examining underlying conditions, it is important to better understand ways in which groups that may have had consistent exposure to COVID-19 through repeated interactions with the public could be infecting vulnerable older residents.

- What are the unintended consequences of low-wage workers being on the “front lines”?
- While the median age of essential workers is only 42, how might this younger portion of the population be interacting with older citizens?
- Low-wage essential workers may not feel they have the choice to not work. How are the families of these workers coping with the risks associated with:
  - Overcrowded housing
  - Reduced access to vehicles
  - Multigenerational households
  - Low levels of savings
- How can these insights inform reopening strategies and risks?
- More data is needed to understand how these interactions are affecting exposure and the risks associated with COVID-19.

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**Health Inequities in a Pandemic:  
The Community Response**

**Lphi**  
ALIGNING ACTION  
FOR HEALTH®

Shelina Davis, MPH, MSW  
Chief Executive Officer  
Louisiana Public Health Institute

## Louisiana Public Health Institute Overview

The Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI) is a state-wide community focused non-profit committed to ensuring all Louisianans have just and fair opportunities to be healthy and well through authentic partnership with community and partners; and

- **community engagement**
- **using data + research for action**
- **project design + implementation**
- **policy + advocacy**
- **technology solutions**
- **providing fiscal and administrative support to our partners**

We are headquartered in New Orleans and have staff in all 9 regions of the state who work on an array of public health and community topics – from tobacco prevention and control, to building healthier communities, to assessing needs of communities, to supporting the whole health needs of individuals and families from early childhood to older adults.

## Overview

- Health Disparity versus Health Equity
- The Community Response
- Call for Community Action

Source: <http://ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus/>

## Health Disparity v. Health Equity

## Natalie S. Burke, CEO, CommonHealth Action Quote

*In the midst of coronavirus, it is important now than it has ever been. STOP TALKING ABOUT HEALTH DISPARITIES, DISPARITIES, OR INEQUALITIES...Disparities are merely differences. The opposite of health equity is health inequity, NOT health disparity. If we cannot name a problem, we cannot solve the problem and right now, the problem is that people of color are dying at disproportionate rates because of pre-existing inequities in housing, education, access to healthcare, transportation, and employment. Think about it...Coronavirus testing sites have largely been DRIVE UP testing sites. How's that supposed to work for people without a car? THAT is what INEQUITY looks like...Change your language. Our immediate enemy is inequity (in health and all aspects of society) as much as it is the virus.*

## Health Equity...



Every person in a community has a fair and just **opportunity to reach their full health potential** and no one is “disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of **social position or other socially determined circumstances**”

*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*



## State-level efforts...

- Louisiana COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.
- Resilient Louisiana Commission.
- Contact Tracing. If you're interested in being a contact tracer, email [contacttracing@la.gov](mailto:contacttracing@la.gov).
- Louisiana Public Health Institute and Louisiana Department of Health hosted NINE (9) tele-townhalls entitled: Preparing for the Next Phase.
  - For access to the recordings, visit...

## Visit [www.lphi.org/covid-19/](http://www.lphi.org/covid-19/)

- [No, We're Not Immune: The Impact of Coronavirus on African-American Whole Health in Louisiana](#)
- [How to Survive & Thrive – Corona Virus Mental Health](#)
- [COVID-19: Preparing for the Next Phase](#)
  - [Recording for Greater New Orleans Area \(Region 1\)](#)
  - [Recording for Hammond & North Shore Area \(Region 9\)](#)
  - [Recording for Baton Rouge Areas \(Region 2\)](#)
  - [Recording for Monroe Area \(Region 8\)](#)
  - [Recording for Houma/River Parishes Area \(Region 3\)](#)
  - [Recording for Acadiana Area \(Region 4\)](#)
  - [Recording for Greater Alexandria Area \(Region 6\)](#)
  - [Recording for Greater Shreveport Area \(Region 7\)](#)
  - [Recording for Lake Charles Area \(Region 5\)](#)

## Local and regional efforts...

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## Culture bearers, Hospitality, gig economy...

Red Beans Parade is collecting donations NOLABA raised over \$646,000 for gig workers

TCA has funds to use for rental assistance

Xavier University Community outreach center offering utilities assistance (to 70125 only)

Beyoncé donated \$6 million to COVID-19 relief



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**School systems:** 660,000 meals served since 3/16 through NOLA Public Schools

**Food pantries/banks:** Second harvest in urgent need of donations to serve the public. Drive up food pantry created in the lower ninth ward and in other parts of New Orleans to help families in need

**Churches:** Churches are closed and using conference call and live internet streaming

**Senior citizens:** Council on Aging is distributing food to seniors; younger people have paired with senior citizens to make store and pharmacy runs

**Nursing homes:** Severely impacted [Vets home](#) and Lambeth House [Lambeth](#)



# THANK YOU TO ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS!



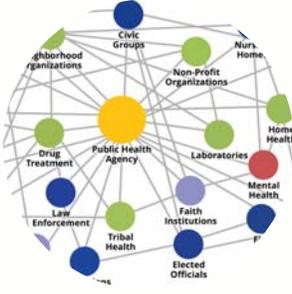
A special thank you from the City of Rocklin to all essential employees working hard to serve the community. We are grateful for your efforts in keeping our entire region, and especially, **#ROCKLINSTRONG!**

## Honoring loved ones...



## Preparing for the next phase...

COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY

mental health



## Mid- to longer-term plans...

- Support from community philanthropy, government, and community partners
- Ensuring mental health is being addressed at all stages of the response and recovery.
- We know that our landscape is going to be forever change – how do we begin to support communities and organizations...

## Messaging to our community...

- ◆ Ensure testing is readily-available to all.
- ◆ Reinforce: Physical Distancing, Staying Home, Masking Up.
- ◆ Ensure readily-available access to masks and other PPE to all essential workers
- ◆ Contact Tracing. If you're interested in being a contact tracker, email [contacttracing@la.gov](mailto:contacttracing@la.gov)
- ◆ Destigmatize mental health resources and publicize those that are free and available to everyone
- ◆ Lastly – communicate widely and effectively the plan for reopening of our businesses safely, ensuring protection and safety for all

# Safe Reopening...

 **Phase One: Safest at Home**

- Continue to stay home except for essential needs and other permitted activities on a limited basis.
- Everyone must wear a mask or face covering when performing activities in public.
- Practice social distancing, wash hands often, and frequently disinfect surfaces.



[Phases for a Safe Reopening](#)    [Phase One: Safest at Home](#)

<https://ready.nola.gov/home/>

## Call for Community Action...

**Stay at Home** and only leave your house for essential needs.

**Consider buying from local businesses online.**

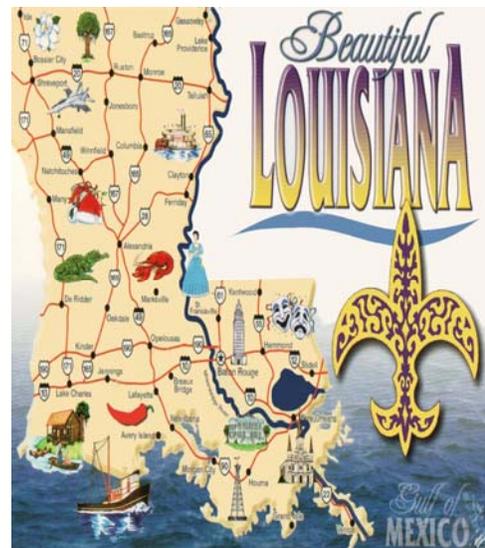
When you are out:

- **Be sure to physically distance -- stay at least six feet away** from others and wear a face covering over both your nose and mouth.
- **Mask Up** to protect others and yourself!

### We're all in this TOGETHER!

- Check in on your family, friends, and neighbors
- Be extra kind, patient, and compassionate towards each other.

We as Louisianans are adaptable and will make it through to the other side of this. And when we get there, we will do another thing Louisianans know how to do well – celebrate!



# Thank you for this opportunity!

Shelina Davis, MPH, MSW  
CEO, Louisiana Public Health Institute  
[sdavis@lphi.org](mailto:sdavis@lphi.org)  
504-296-2024



## COVID-19 Community Testing

Ayame Dinkler  
Chief Administrative Officer  
LCMC Health

May 20, 2020

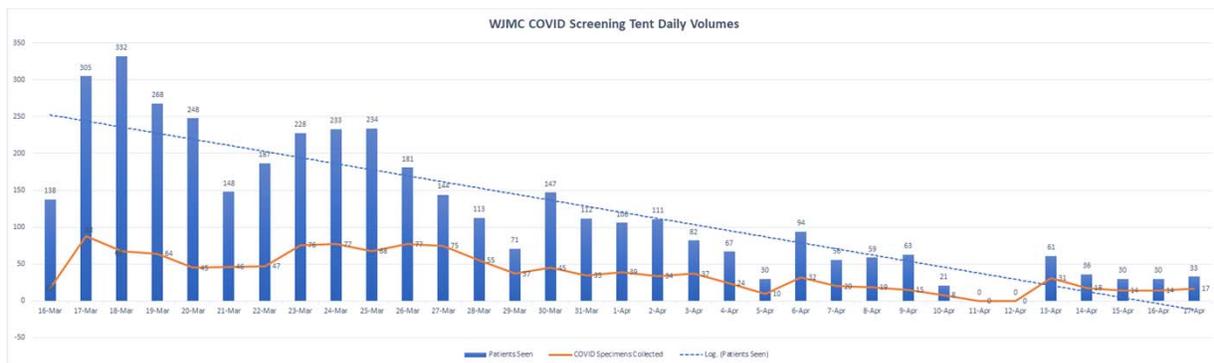
## LCMC Viral Testing

- Hospitals, urgent cares, community testing have greatly expanded access to testing in the region
- 3 in-house modalities, 2 commercial labs
- Nurse hotline has received over 14,000 phone calls



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## WJMC Drive Through Testing



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# Community Testing Collaborative



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Photo courtesy of NOLA.com



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Photo courtesy of NOLA.com



## COVID-19 testing

Mobile Coronavirus testing is coming to your area!

**You are encouraged to get tested if you have had symptoms or think you have been exposed to COVID-19.**

Symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

- Must be 18+ years or older
- Testing takes approx. 15 minutes
- First come, first served
- No out of pocket cost\*

\*Uninsured: No out of pocket cost.  
\*Insured: Insurance will be billed, but no out of pocket costs to individual.



Visit [ready.nola.gov/mobile-testing](http://ready.nola.gov/mobile-testing) or call 311 to see when mobile testing will come to your community!

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## Prueba de Visite COVID-19

¡Prueba móvil de Coronavirus pronto en su área!

**Se le invita a que se haga la prueba si ha tenido síntomas o cree que ha estado expuesto a COVID-19.**

Los síntomas incluyen fiebre, tos y dificultad para respirar.

- Debe tener más de 18 años de edad
- La prueba toma aprox. 15 minutos
- Se atenderá en orden de llegada
- Sin costo para usted\*

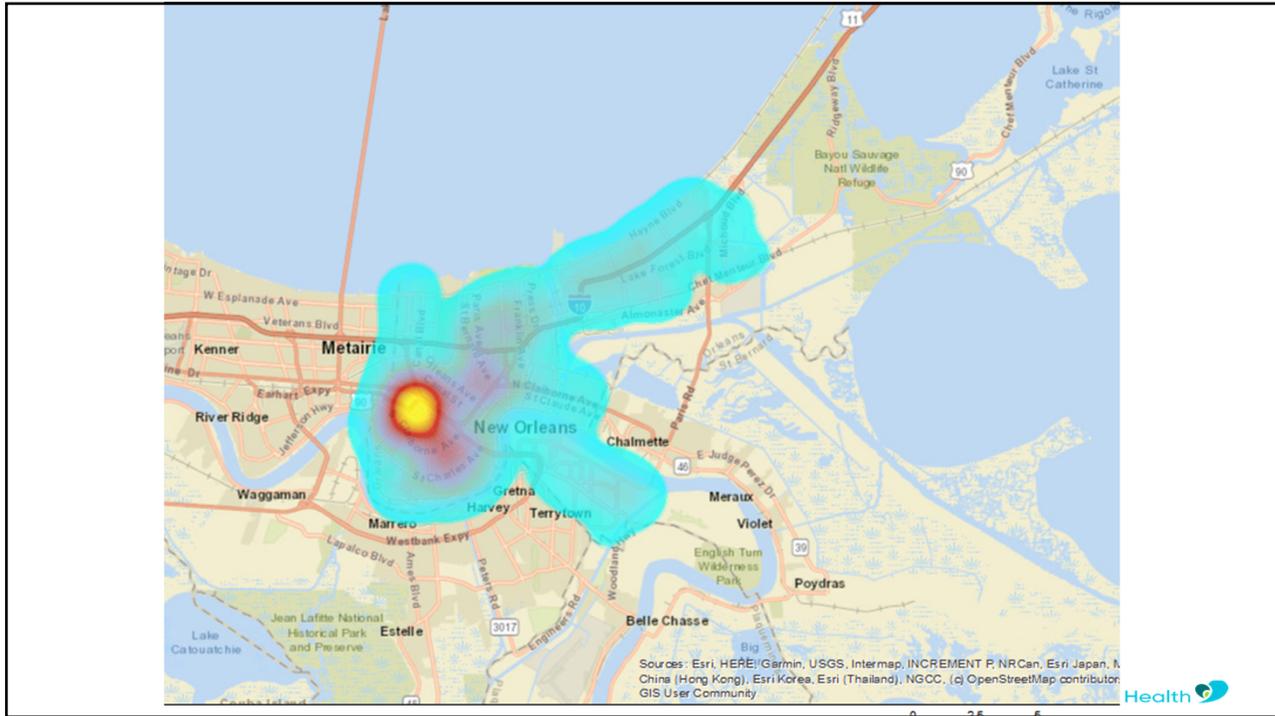
\*Sin seguro de gastos médicos: Sin costo para usted.  
\*Con seguro de gastos médicos: Se facturará a la aseguradora, pero no tendrá un costo adicional para el asegurado.



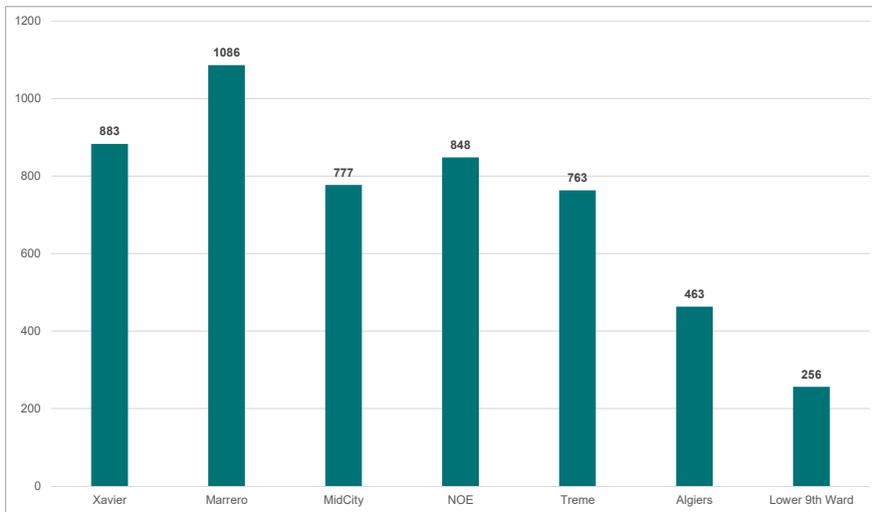
Visite [ready.nola.gov/mobile-testing](http://ready.nola.gov/mobile-testing) o llame al 311 para ver cuándo estará la prueba móvil a su comunidad!

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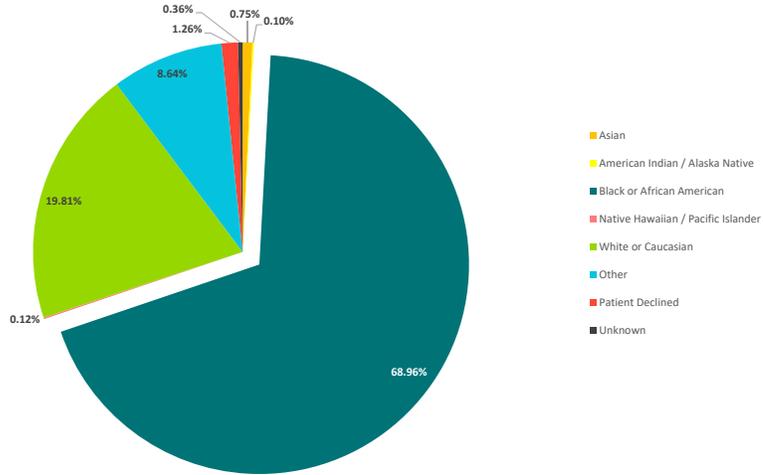




## Community Tests Administered by Site



### Tests Completed by Race

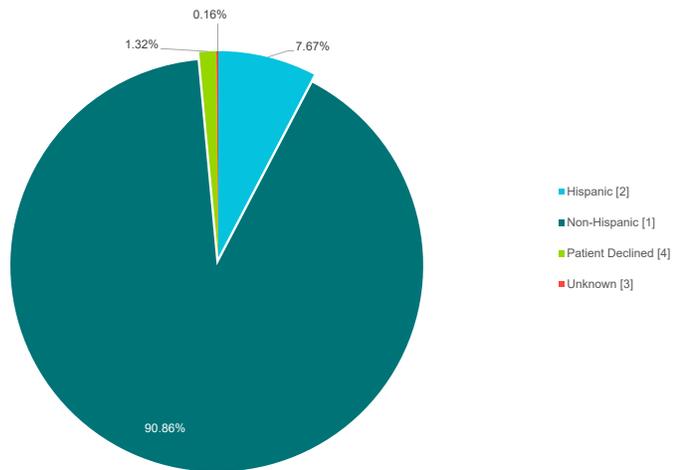


59 03.11.2020

COVID-19 Response



### Tests completed by Ethnicity



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LCMC Health Coronavirus Updates  
(*Translates to Spanish & Vietnamese*)

<https://www.lcmchealth.org/coronavirus/>



## Q&A



## Next Steps

- This recording and the slides will be emailed to you
- Please visit our COVID-19 page for resources and our other webinar recordings: <https://www.gnof.org/covid19-nonprofits/>