Student Displacement
Following the Hurricanes:
Perceptions, Outcomes and Implications

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Overview

- Outcomes
  - Enrollment
  - Displacement

- Perceptions
  - Focus Groups
  - Survey of Public School Principals (with RAND)

- Response
  - Louisiana Department of Education - Project SERV
  - US Department of Education - Emergency Impact Aid Program

- Implications
The Gist of It

- The recovery is not complete.
  - Thousands of children are still displaced. Their status and location are unknown. There is no current system in place to track these children.

- There is a need for system-wide response and recovery planning.
  - Good intentions were and are not enough.

- The resource needs of affected schools were not met.
  - Funding, staff, classrooms, materials, health & mental health services, and information.
Hurricane Enrollment Changes

- The following series of maps demonstrates the dynamics of student return (i.e., month to month changes) over the course of the 2005-06 school year.
  - Where possible, students return rapidly
    - Calcasieu, Jefferson, St. Tammany, Vermilion
  - Others return gradually
    - Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard
  - Public school enrollment at the end of the school year in Louisiana decreased by more than 70,000 students compared to the previous year.
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures Pre-Storm to October '05

Enrollment Change
% Enrollment Change PS to Oct. '05
-100% to -20%
-20% to -10%
-10% to -3%
-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures October to November

Enrollment Change
% Enrollment Change Oct to Nov.
-100% to -20%
-20% to -10%
-10% to -3%
-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data

Maximum Sustained Winds (MPH)
0
51 - 60
61 - 70
71 - 80
81 - 100
101 - 122
Affected School Districts
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures November to December
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures December to January

Enrollment Change
- % Enrollment Change Dec. to Jan.
-10% to -3%
-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data

Maximum Sustained Winds (MPH)
- 0
- 51 - 60
- 61 - 70
- 71 - 80
- 81 - 100
- 101 - 122
- Affected School Districts
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures January to February

Enrollment Change
% Enrollment Change Jan. to Feb.
-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures February to March

Enrollment Change
% Enrollment Change Feb. to Mar.
-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data

Maximum Sustained Winds (MPH)
0
51 - 60
61 - 70
71 - 80
81 - 100
101 - 122
Affected School Districts
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
Enrollment Figures March to April

Enrollment Change
% Enrollment Change Mar. to Apr.
-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data
Hurricane Enrollment Changes

- The following series of maps demonstrates the dynamics of student displacement over the course of the 2005-06 school year.
  - Note that some changes in enrollment lag events (e.g., Cameron Parish) because of the event’s direct impact on the system.
  - Displaced students tend to move to urban areas (Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Alexandria, Shreveport).
  - Displacement appears to follow major roadways (I-10, I-49, US 61).
  - This pattern is likely to repeat if a similar event happens.
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
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Affected School Districts
Katrina Winds in Affected School Districts
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-3% to 3%
3% to 10%
10% to 20%
20% to 100%
No Data
Enrollment – What happened?

- Displaced public school students

- Returned to original school without enrolling elsewhere in Louisiana: 52978, 31%
- Returned to original school after having enrolled elsewhere in Louisiana: 65397, 38%
- Currently enrolled in a Louisiana school other than original school: 41870, 24%
- Have not re-enrolled in any Louisiana public school: 11863, 7%

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Displacement and Return

- Did not re-enroll in Louisiana Public Schools: 52,978
- Enrolled in different district in Louisiana: 41,870
- Returned to same district, but different school: 11,863
- Returned to same school: 65,397

Enrolled on 8/25:

Date:
- 8/26
- 9/15
- 10/15
- 11/15
- 12/15
- 1/15
- 2/15
- 3/15
- 4/15
- 5/15
Continuing Recovery: 2006-07

- Enrollment increased by ~25,000 in 2006-07 compared to EOY 2005-06
- 69,031 Storm exit students EOY 2005-06
  - ~15,000 students displaced by the storms with no EOY enrollment returned to school as of October 2006
    - 77.7% FRL (04-05)
    - 62.3% FRL (04-05) for students that returned during the 2005-06 SY
- Orleans Public schools
  - 2004-05: 77% FRL
  - 2006-07: 69% FRL (including the Recovery District)
Minority and Lower-Achieving Students are More Likely to Continue to be Displaced

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Minority</th>
<th>Achievement (2005)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Returned to original school without enrolling elsewhere in Louisiana</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to original school after having enrolled elsewhere in Louisiana</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently enrolled in a Louisiana school other than original school</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have not re-enrolled in any Louisiana public school</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to any LA School EOY 2005-06</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned in 2006-07</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Even when they returned . . .

Orleans End of Year Students: Number of Days Not Enrolled in LA Public Schools

- More than two thirds of the students enrolled at year end in Orleans schools have an enrollment gap of more than 60 days.

- More than half of the students enrolled at year end in Orleans schools have no record of having enrolled in another Louisiana public school. These students have missed at least three months of school.
Where is everybody else?

- LA public school enrollment decreased approximately 74,000 compared to 2004-05
- Where are they?
  - US Department of Education Emergency Impact Aid Program
    - 139,010 total students (public and non-public)
    - 68,384 in low impact states (AL, LA, MS not included), at least 6,000 students unaccounted.
  - Estimates of displaced students in news sources vary widely, from 50,000 to 110,000 students enrolled outside of Louisiana due to the hurricanes.
    - Information does not identify originating state, nor do they identify whether the students were enrolled in public or non-public schools.
    - An estimated 60,000 non-public school students were initially displaced by the storms. In Louisiana, non-public school enrollment decreased 6,598.
- We do not know that any of the 74,000 students have enrolled in school. The information available is limited.
Focus Groups

- Four Affected Parishes
  - Jefferson, Lafayette, St. Tammany, and Vermilion

- Methodology
  - Five groups of 12-15 displaced individuals each
    - Three groups of children: Grades 3 & 4, Grades 7 & 8, Grades 10 & 11.
    - Parents
    - Faculty
  - Conducted May 2 and 16, 2006
Focus Groups

- Trans-system Findings
  - Lack of a shared plan
  - Perception that help came from the community, not from government agencies

- Communication
  - Web sites
  - Text messaging
  - Lack of electronic school and health records
Focus Groups

Recommendations

- Planning – response and recovery
- Schools serve as centering point of community recovery, so should be explicitly used for this purpose.
  - A “one-stop” shop for access to or information about public services. For example, health services, mental health services, housing, insurance.
- Develop electronic, easily accessible health and education records.
- Education and health care agencies should take a more active role in disaster exercises.
Principals Survey

- Partnered with RAND Education
- Sample of principals in 503 schools (40% of the public schools that enroll at least one displaced student), that:
  - Includes schools serving victims of both hurricanes
  - Includes schools serving all grade levels
  - Oversamples schools where displaced students are a large fraction of enrollment
Principals Survey

- Displaced students struggled more with mental health and achievement, particularly in high-displacement schools.
- Class sizes increased in more than one third of the schools.
- More than half of the schools needed additional staff (e.g., teachers, substitutes, counselors)
  - Staffing needs frequently were not met, primarily due to lack of funding.
- Substantially more disciplinary issues in schools with large numbers of displaced students.
Project SERV

- Louisiana’s Project SERV (Schools Emergency Response to Violence) assisted local schools in their recovery from traumatic events, including the devastating aftermath of hurricanes.
- Training to school teams in the areas of stress management, relaxation techniques, communication skills and recognition of referral conditions.
  - Originally developed for school violence, but portions were selected for use in response to the storms.
- Training delivered upon request of school districts only.
Project SERV - Repopulated Districts

District Legend
- Repopulated

- Calcasieu
- Cameron
- Vermilion
- Jefferson
- Orleans
- St. Tammany
- St. Bernard
- Plaquemines
Project SERV - Large Number of Students

District Legend
- Large Number

Caddo
Rapides
East Baton Rouge
Livingston
Tangipahoa
Lafayette
Ascension
St. John the Baptist

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Summary and Implications

- Lack of planning
  - Not just response planning, but especially recovery planning
- Common perception that most support came from sources other than government agencies
- Mental health issues
  - Patterns of impact and displacement clearly identify areas that will need assistance and services
Summary and Implications

- Immediate and *static* displacement
- Repopulation, where possible, happened as soon as schools were opened. Lack of system to track displaced students.
- No standards for sharing education related information.
- Accountability for educating displaced students.
How do we do better?

- The recovery is not complete.
  - Thousands of children are still displaced. Their status and location are unknown. There is no current system in place to track these children.

- There is a need for system-wide response and recovery planning.
  - Good intentions were and are not enough.

- The resource needs of affected schools were not met.
  - Funding, staff, classrooms, materials, health & mental health services, and information.
Collaborators

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