

Hurricane katrina's effect on new orleans population essay

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In 2005, Hurricane Strain had a large negative effect on the city of New Orleans and its surrounding areas. In this paper will discuss the initial impact Hurricane Kate Nina had on the population and demographics of New Orleans, and deeply examine changes and progress from the day of the disaster to present day. IMPACT Hurricane Strain reached land from the Gulf of Mexico on August 29th, 2005, just 10 miles east from New Orleans, Louisiana. Hurricane Strain drastically impacted the population and demographics of New Orleans, Louisiana.

New Orleans was the 31st largest city in the country with a population of 454,863 in 2005. The 2004 American Census reported that 69% of city population was black, whites 28%, and Asians 2%. Of this population 24% were living under the poverty line. New Orleans post-disaster population reduced to only several thousand. The storm left only 36% of homes under structure yet still 70% of jobs remained intact. Despite 8 years later most evacuees have yet to return (Action Plan for New Orleans: The New American City). NINE YEARS LATER Nine years after Strain, New Orleans is a much smaller city.

The 2010 Census concluded that the population is 343,829. Although the city has regained a majority of its population since the levees failed, it is still shy by over 100,000 residents. Changes in demographics include 118,526 fewer African Americans, 24,101 fewer whites, 1,019 fewer Asians, but the number of Hispanics grew by 3,225. African Americans still represent 60 percent of the city population. Today the poverty rate is the same as it was previously, 27%. New Orleans crime rate remains the same as it was in 2000, twice the national rate. Although the recovery of the

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population of the city is not complete due to the fact that the same population levels have not been reached, with time this completion will occur. Through overspent funding draining, cleaning, and reconstruction have taken place drawing populations back in.

Funds have gone to the improvements of the Levee system to prevent this scale of damage from occurring again. On January 11th, 2006 the New Orleans' urban planning committee proposed an action plan "The New American City". This plan is composed of the construction of better flood and stormwater protection, new public transit, parks and open space, and neighborhood rebuilding. The city has been reinforced by a new system of levees, pumps, and gates to protect the city. New high speed light rail trains have been added to connect people through the city and its surrounding regions.

Multifunctional parks have been created in every neighborhood in an attempt to connect neighborhoods and employment (The Data Center).