
A Study of Recovery – the Gulf Coast Child & Family Health Study

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Flood of New Orleans



Lower 9th Ward, New Orleans









Arabi, Louisiana, May 2006







Waveland, MS home,
day before Hurricane
Katrina, photo courtesy
of Kimberly King



Waveland, MS home,
day before Hurricane
Katrina, photo courtesy
of Kimberly King

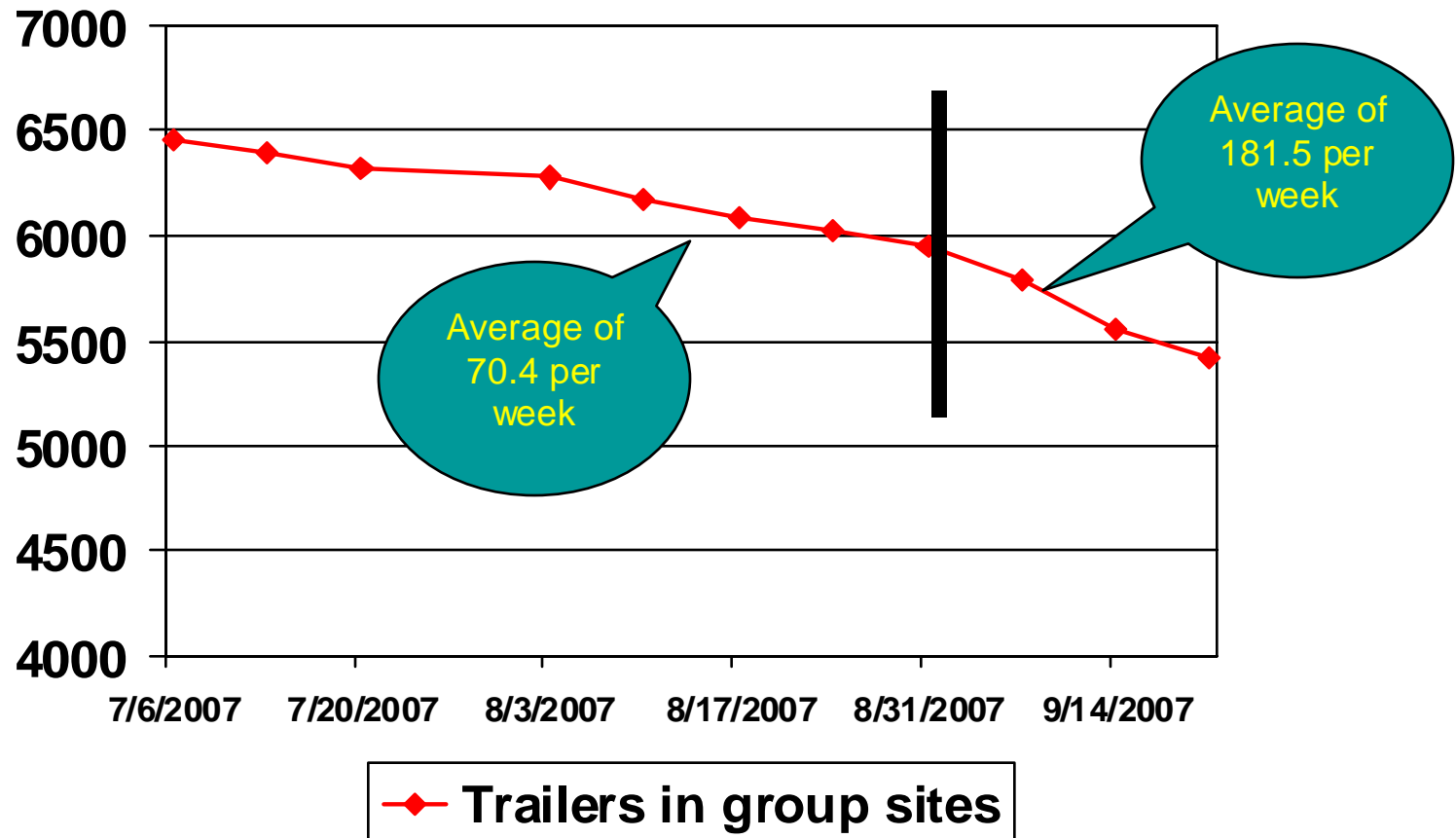


Same home, several
days after Hurricane
Katrina, photo courtesy
of Kimberly King



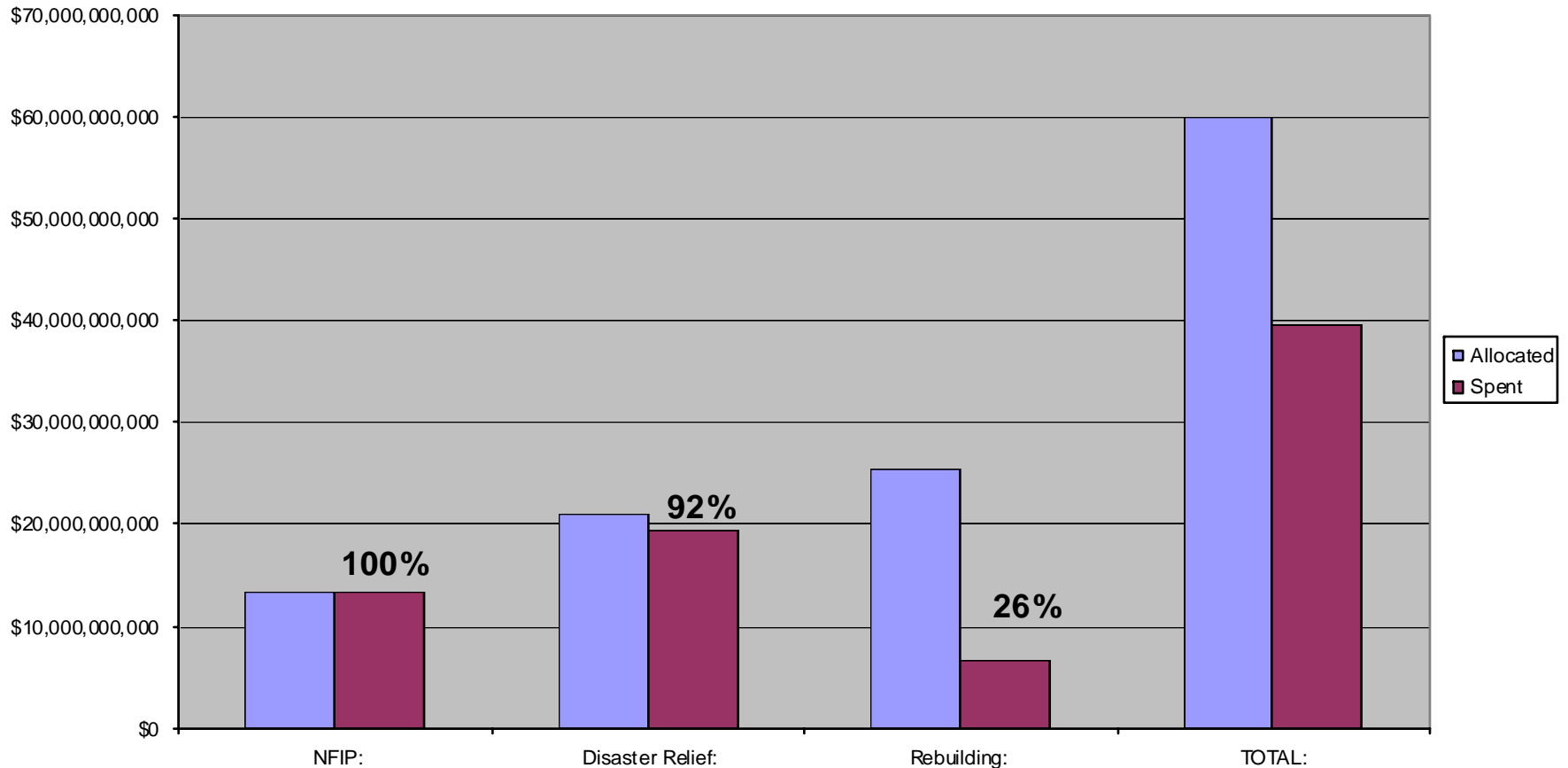
One year, post-Katrina

Some measures of recovery: Depopulation of Group Trailer Sites



Federal Funds Allocated & Spent (Louisiana)

Spent vs. Allocated by Type of Funds

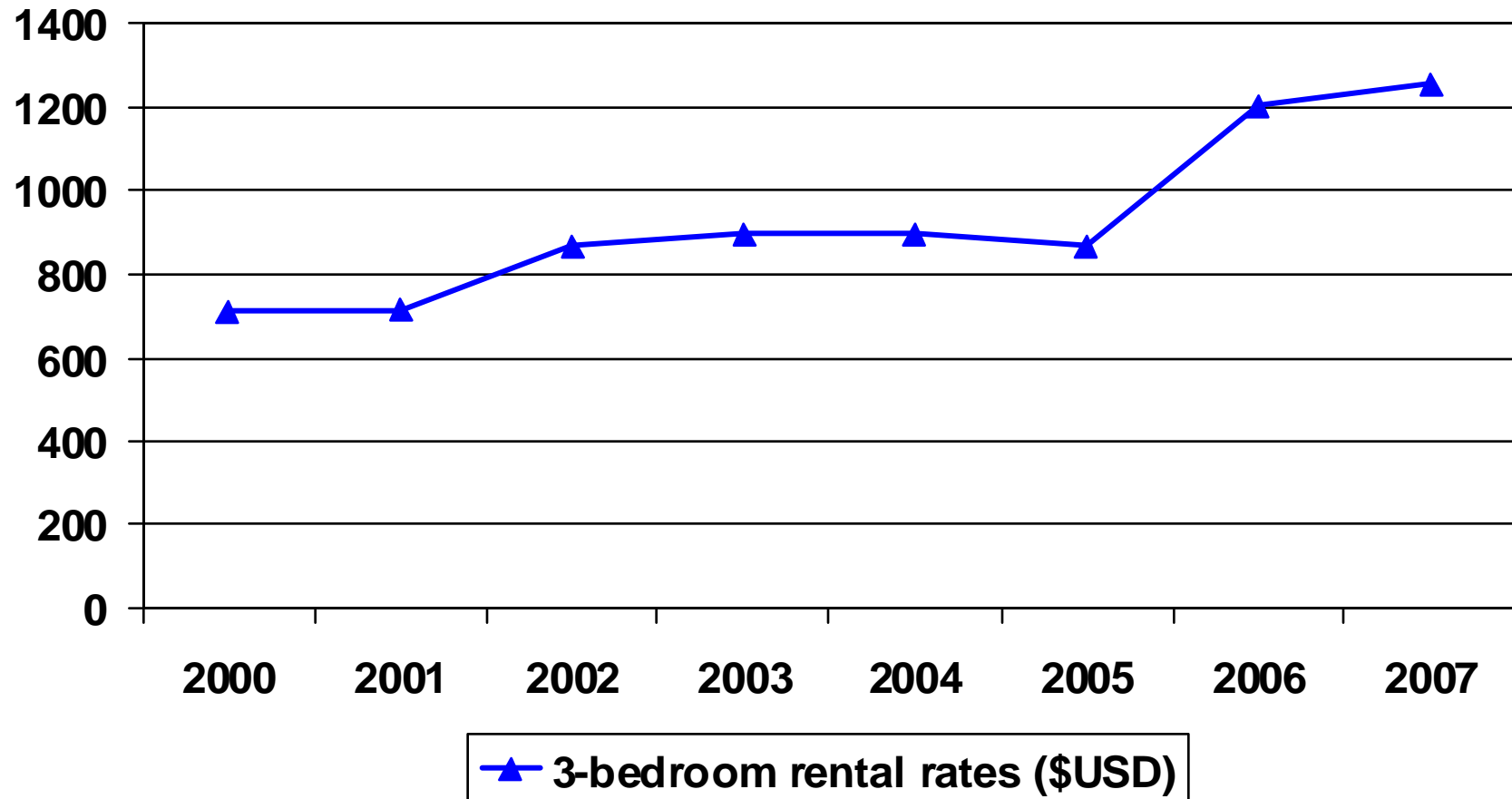


Source: Louisiana Recovery Authority

Post-Katrina Social Indicators

- Population loss: Of ~450,000 in New Orleans, ~260,000 have returned
- Murder rates increased 69% from 2004-2006 (*AJPH, M VanLandingham*)
- Public school enrollment in Orleans Parish fell from 66,000 in Fall 2004 to 26,000 in Spring 2007
- Rents have increased by 35 – 50% in New Orleans area

New Orleans Fair Market Rentals, 2000 - 2007



Source: *Brookings Katrina Index, June 07*

Individual-level risk factors for poor mental health outcomes
("60,000 Disaster Victims Speak," Norris et al, Psychiatry
65(3), 2002)

- Trauma & stress: severe exposure, living in blighted community, high secondary stress
- Survivor characteristics: female, middle-aged, poor, minority status, prior psych hx
- Family context: presence of children in home; if female, presence of spouse; if child, parental distress; conflict in home
- Resources: Lack or lost belief in ability to cope, control outcomes; few social resources

Psychosocial aspects of disaster

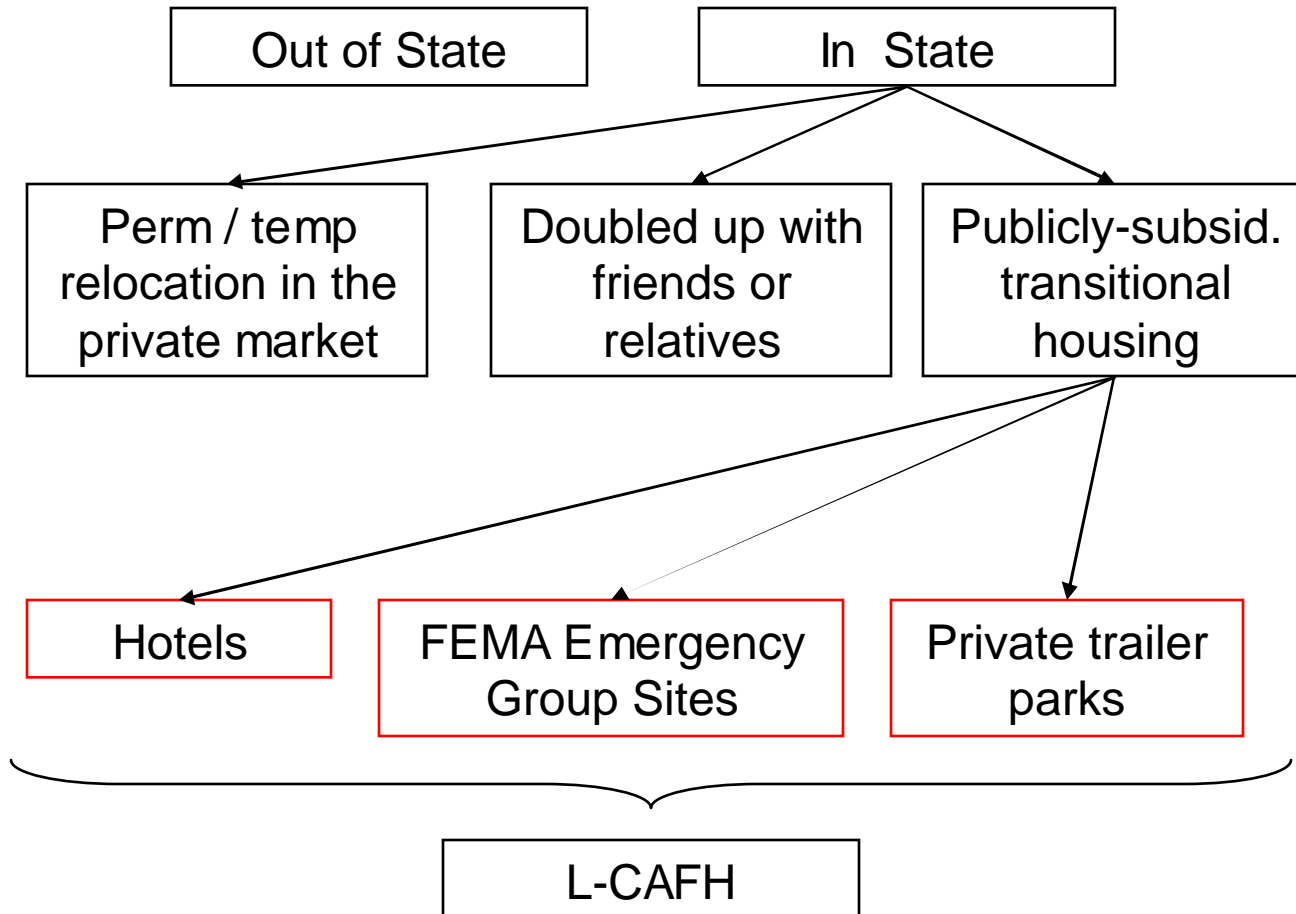
- Social network disruption
- Diminished security and unreliable systems of justice
- Social disengagement, loss of social identity
- Loss of meaning and existential coherence as social ties and institutions have been severed or destroyed
 - *Silove & Steel, 2006. "Understanding community psychosocial needs after disasters." JPGM 52(2):121-125*

Gulf Coast Child & Family Health Study

- An Operation Assist project: a joint venture of Columbia's National Center for Disaster Preparedness and The Children's Health Fund
- Cohort study, n=1,248 households in Louisiana and Mississippi
- Objectives: Assess on-going needs, explore factors associated with resilience and recovery

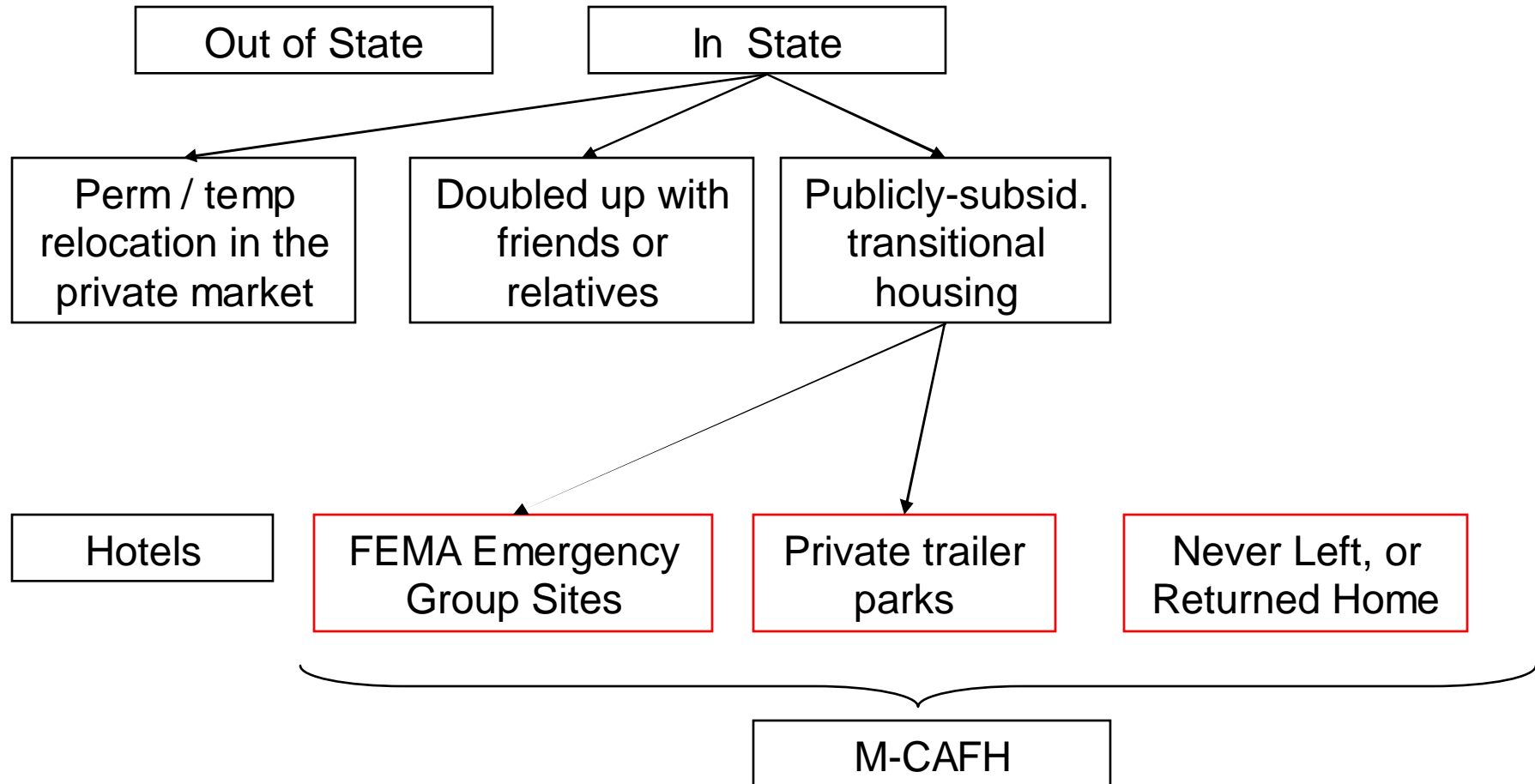
Flow of Evacuees & Affected Populations

Displaced, Aug 2005



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Displaced, Aug 2005



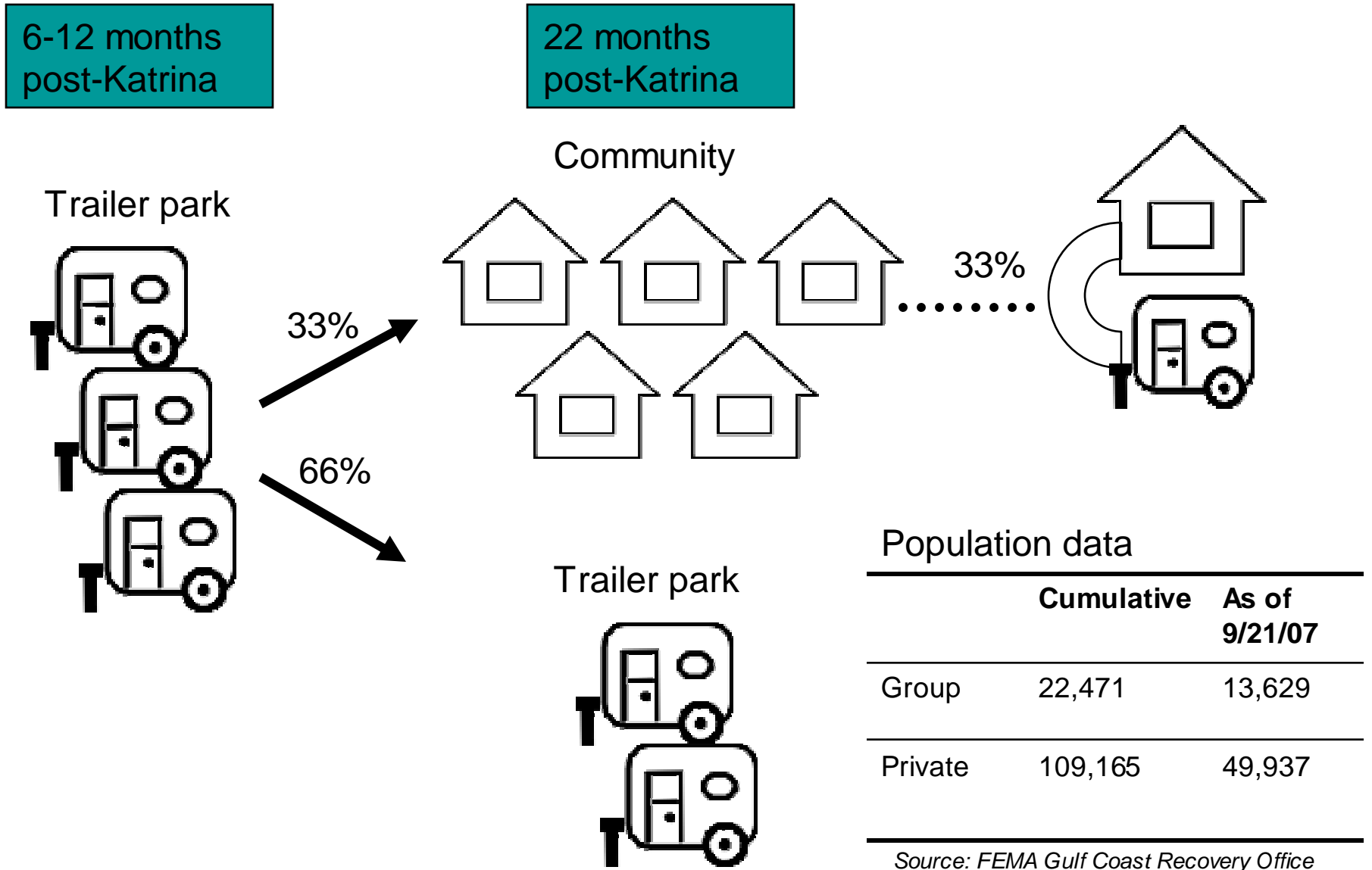
Studying Katrina's Impact

	L-CAFH	M-CAFH
Enrollment	6 months post-Katrina Feb 11 – 20, 2006	1 year post-Katrina Aug 6 – 26, 2006
Follow-up	Apr – Jul, 2007, 20-23 months post-Katrina	
Method	Stratified Multi-stage Cluster Sampling	
Sample	Displaced population living in FEMA-subsidized congregate settings (n=668)	Same as L-CAFH + people living in heavily impacted areas (n=580)
Population	~ 30,000 – 40,000 individuals	~30,000 – 50,000 individuals

CAFH Study tracks individual-level measures of recovery among 1,000+ randomly sampled households in LA + MS

- Housing and relocation status
- Health status (physical + mental health)
- Access and use of health services
- Attitudes & behaviors regarding social institutions (justice, health, faith-based)
- Personal sense of self-efficacy, resilience, and recovery

Relocation of Trailer Park Evacuees

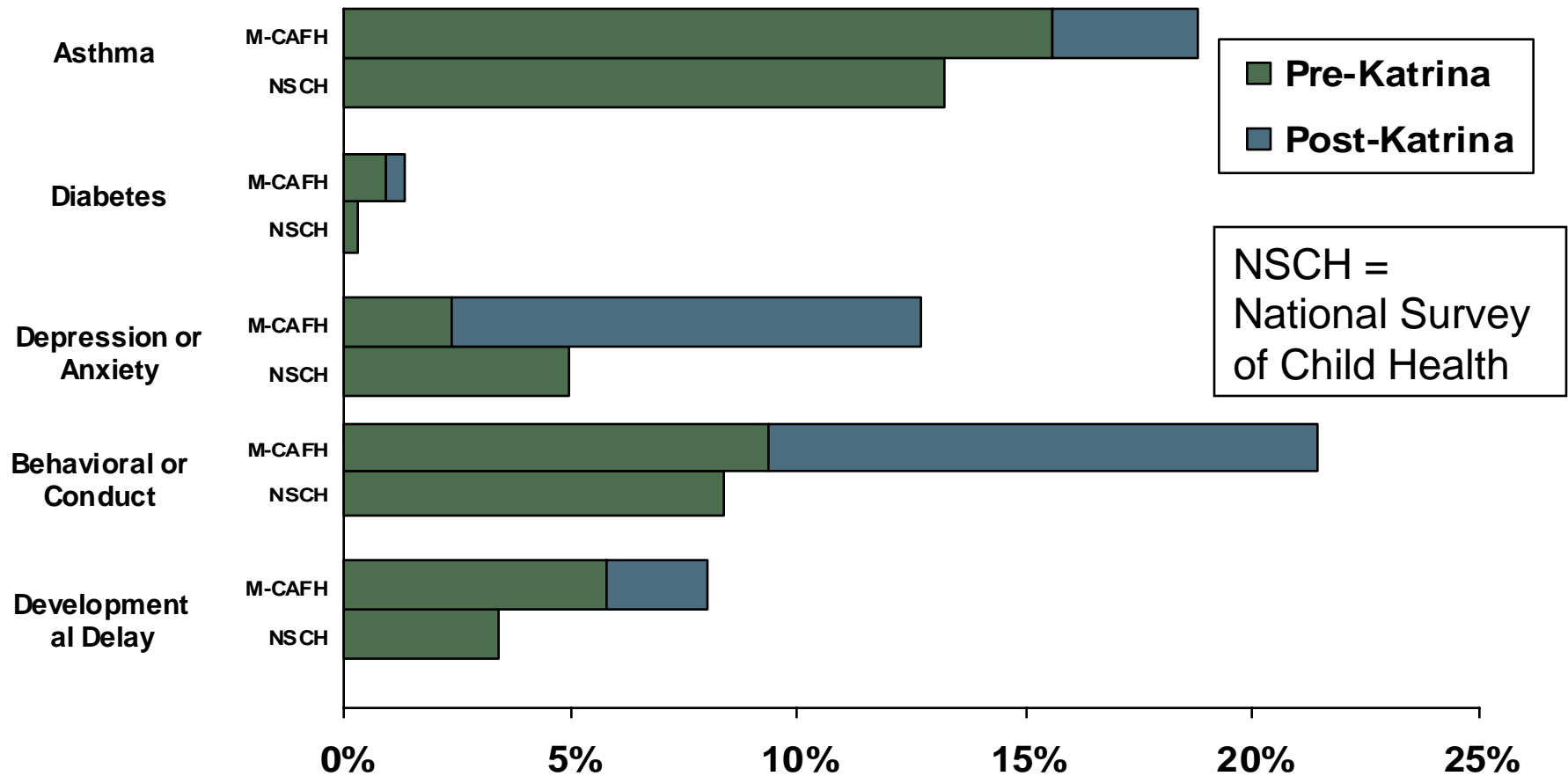


Profile of “Movers” vs. “Stayers” in Trailer Parks

	LA		MS	
	Remain in Trailer Park	Moved in to Community	Remain in Trailer Park	Moved in to Community
<i>% Partnered</i>	21.9	36.2	29.3	45.3
<i>% earning < \$10k annually</i>	54.3	30.6	44.3	26.9
<i>Household with at least one employed adult</i>	39.4	61.2	52.8	70.2
<i>Homeowner pre-Katrina</i>	28.4	45.6	16.6	26.4

Children's Chronic Disease

(Mississippi data, 12 months post-Katrina)



Children's Medical Home Status

	LA		MS	
	Trailer	Community	Trailer	Community
<i>% lost medical home</i>	18.5	28.9	25.7	17.2
<i>% maintained medical home</i>	23.7	23.8	44.6	60.0
<i>% gained medical home</i>	48.0	39.3	10.6	15.8
<i>% never had a medical home</i>	9.8	8.0	19.2	6.9
<i>% Uninsured</i>	12.6	8.0	28.1	24.4
<i>% Medicaid or S-CHIP</i>	81.2	73.7	57.6	60.3

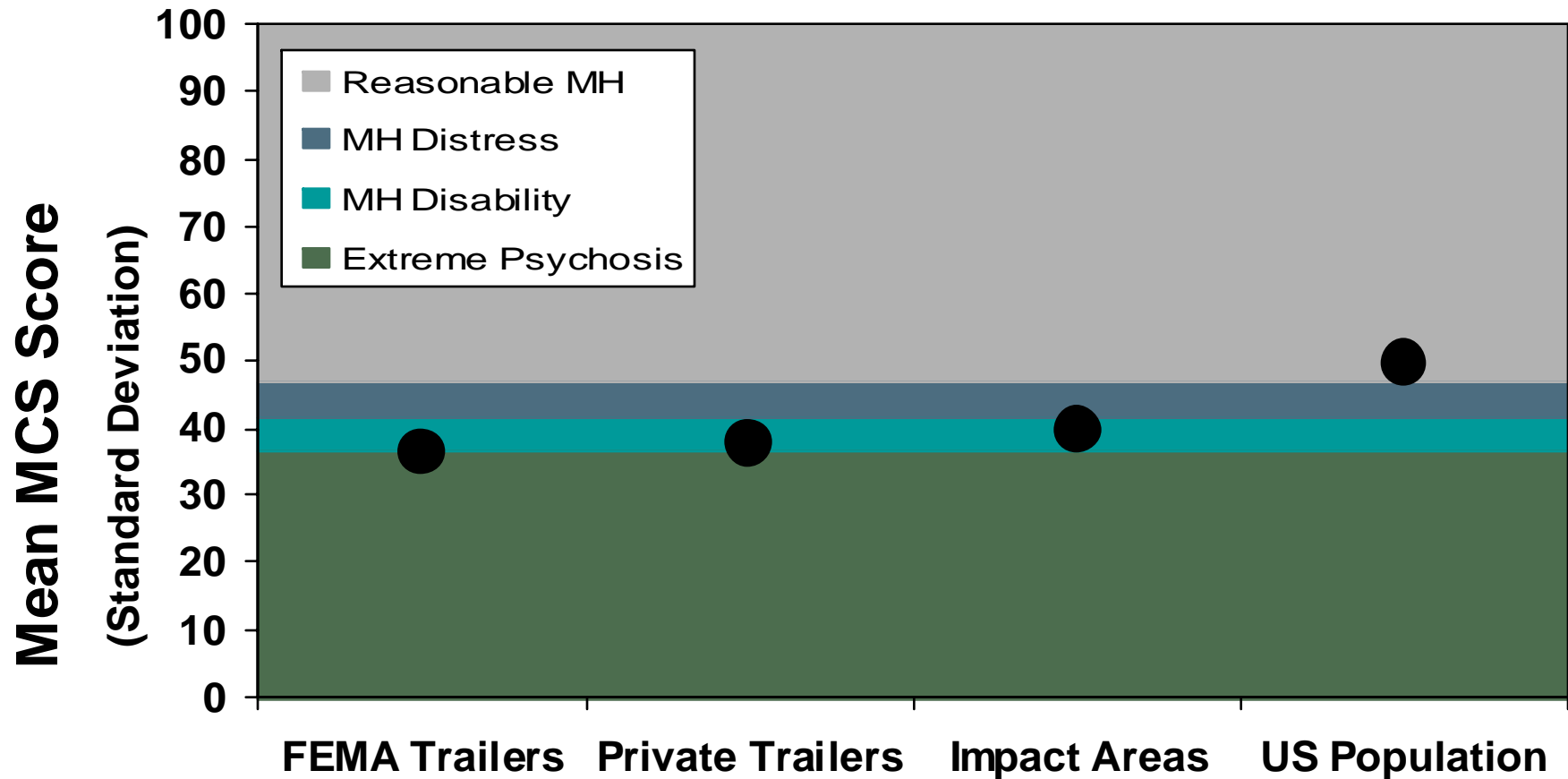
Reported Emotional or Behavioral Difficulties Among Kids, Post-Katrina

	LA		MS	
	Trailer	Community	Trailer	Community
<i>% with any child who had emotional or behavioral problems since hurricane</i>	66.2	80.9	72.3	70.2
<i>% sad or depressed</i>	77.0	85.7	80.2	79.2
<i>% nervous or afraid</i>	85.6	82.9	73.2	85.8
<i>% problems sleeping</i>	56.6	63.4	57.4	75.1
<i>% problems getting along with others</i>	41.4	55.6	61.2	44.6

Financial Resources

	MS (8/06)			LA (2/06)	
	FEMA trailer	Comm trailer	Impact areas	FEMA trailer	Comm trailer
<i>N</i>	169	164	243	329	155
<i>% Access to checking or savings account</i>	51	67	87	62	72
<i>% Access to a useable credit care</i>	16	17	49	23	25

Mental Health *(Mississippi, 12 months post)*



MCS = Mental health component summary score, SF12 version 2

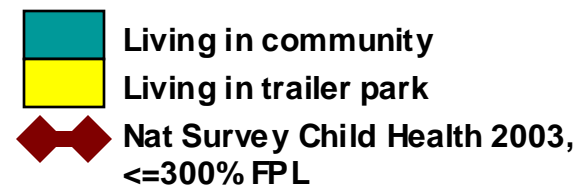
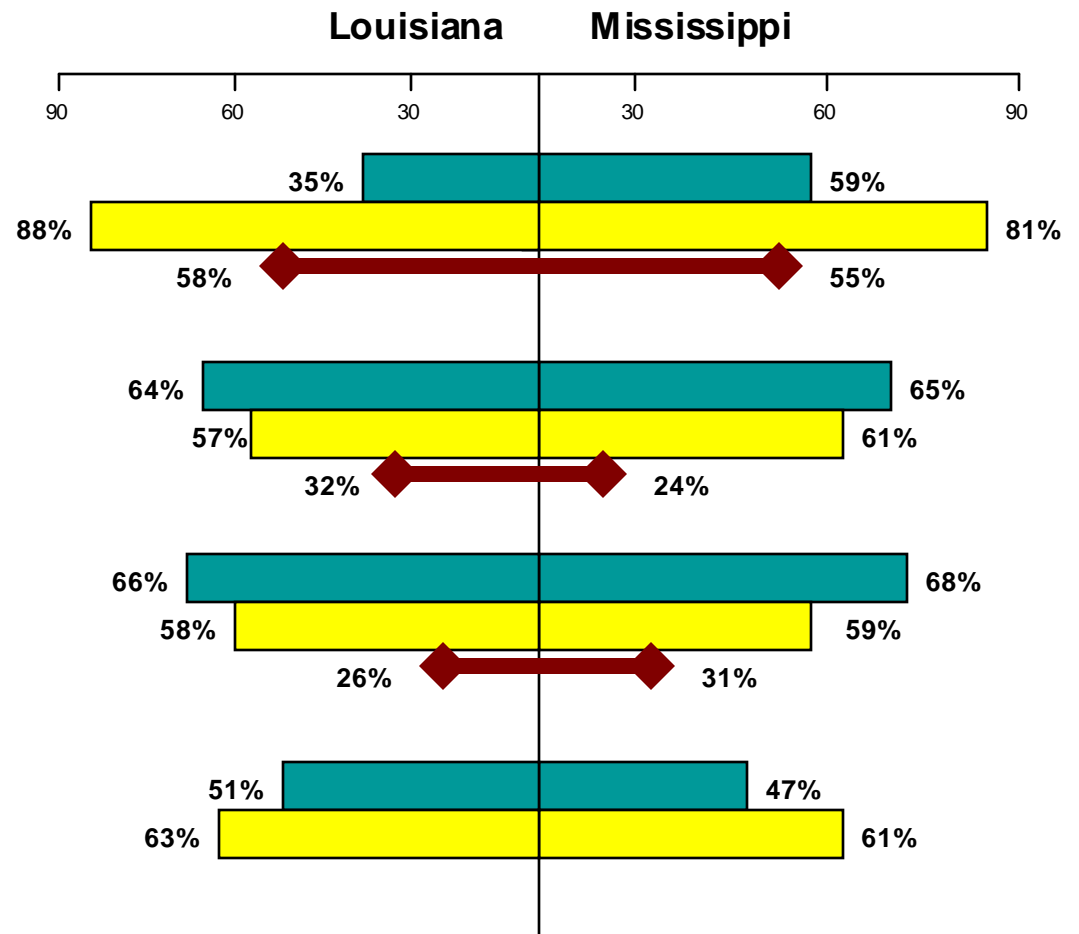
Safety and security

Percentage of parents who said there were people in their neighborhood who were a **bad influence on their children** at both baseline and follow-up, or who said things were getting worse

Percentage of parents who said their **children were never or only sometimes safe in their neighborhood** at both initial and follow-up interviews, or who said things were getting worse

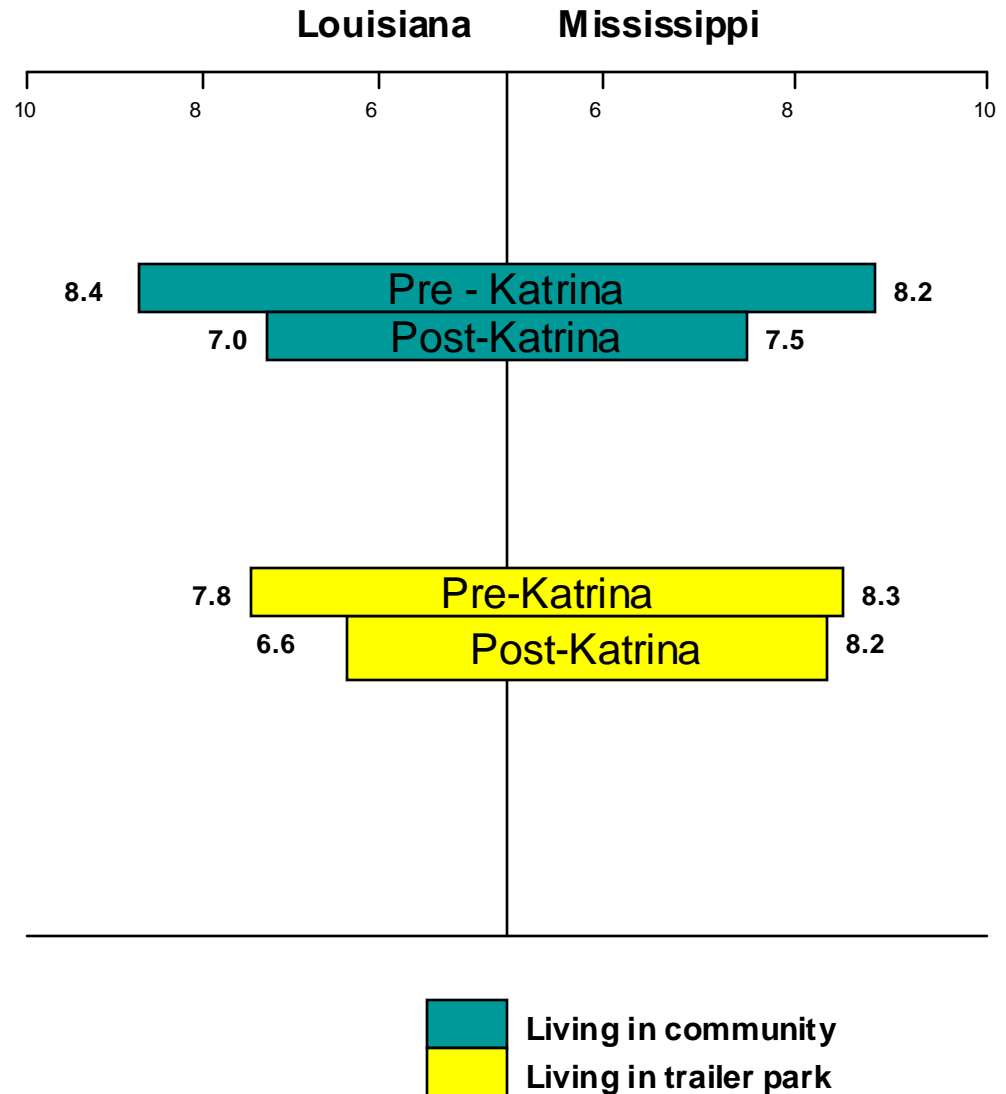
Percentage of parents who said their **children were never or only sometimes safe in school** at both initial and follow-up interviews, or who said things were getting worse

Percentage of people who said they were **afraid to walk alone at night in their neighborhood**



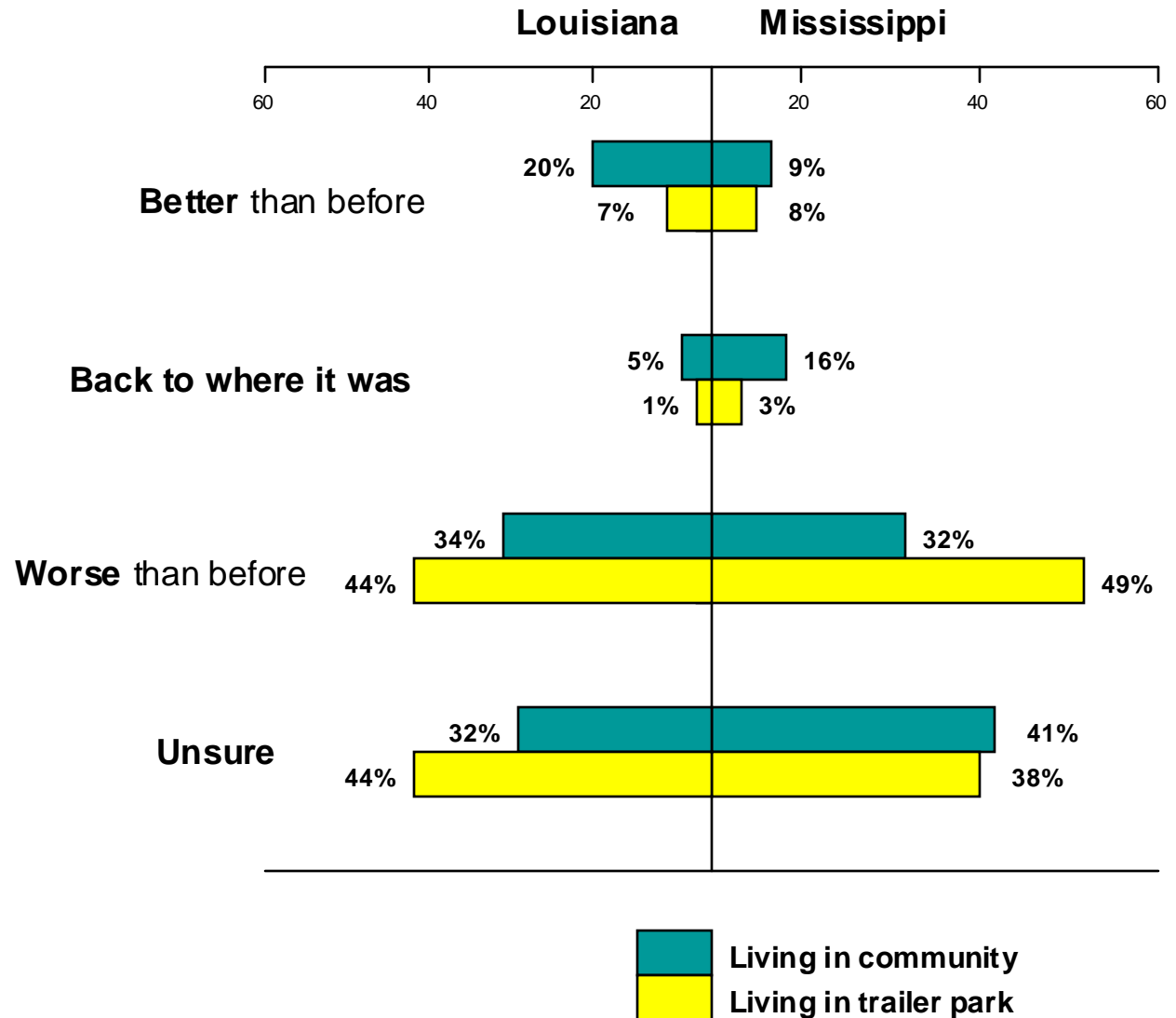
Academic Performance

Question: Parents and caregivers were asked -- On a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning not doing very well and 10 meaning doing very well, how well is your child doing in school now? Using the same scale, how was your child doing in school before the hurricane?



Sense of recovery

Question: How would you characterize your recovery since Hurricane Katrina? Would you say your situation is **better**, **back to where it was**, **worse** than it was before the hurricane, or are you **unsure** because things are still changing?



Post-disaster recovery is a function of...

- Infrastructure rehabilitation and institutional stability
- Community redevelopment and housing stability
- Economic recovery
- Social re-engagement
- Personal recovery and resiliency

