Social and Demographic Disparities in Displacement from and Return to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina: Short-Term and Long-Term Findings

Dr. Rendall will present a joint work with Narayan Sastry, University of Michigan and RAND. They examine factors differentiating who returned to New Orleans among displaced residents of the city in the four years after Hurricane Katrina, and also examine the timing of initial returns and of subsequent moves away from the city among those who initially returned. The aim of their work is to provide a picture of this dynamic process using new data from 2009–2010 Displaced New Orleans Residents Study (DNORS). They also provide an overview of DNORS and key results regarding the study’s response rate, factors associated with non-response, and weights that correct for non-response. The focus is on disparities in displacement and return by race, by socioeconomic status, and by neighborhood factors such as flood damage.

Michael Rendall (PhD Sociology, AM Economics, Brown University) is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Maryland Population Research Center. His previous research into the effects of Hurricane Katrina includes an article, “Breakup of New Orleans households after Hurricane Katrina” Journal of Marriage and Family 2011, based on the pilot survey the Displaced New Orleans Residents Pilot Study fielded in 2006. The present research uses the follow-up full survey, the Displaced New Orleans Residents Survey, for which Professor Rendall is a co-investigator.