

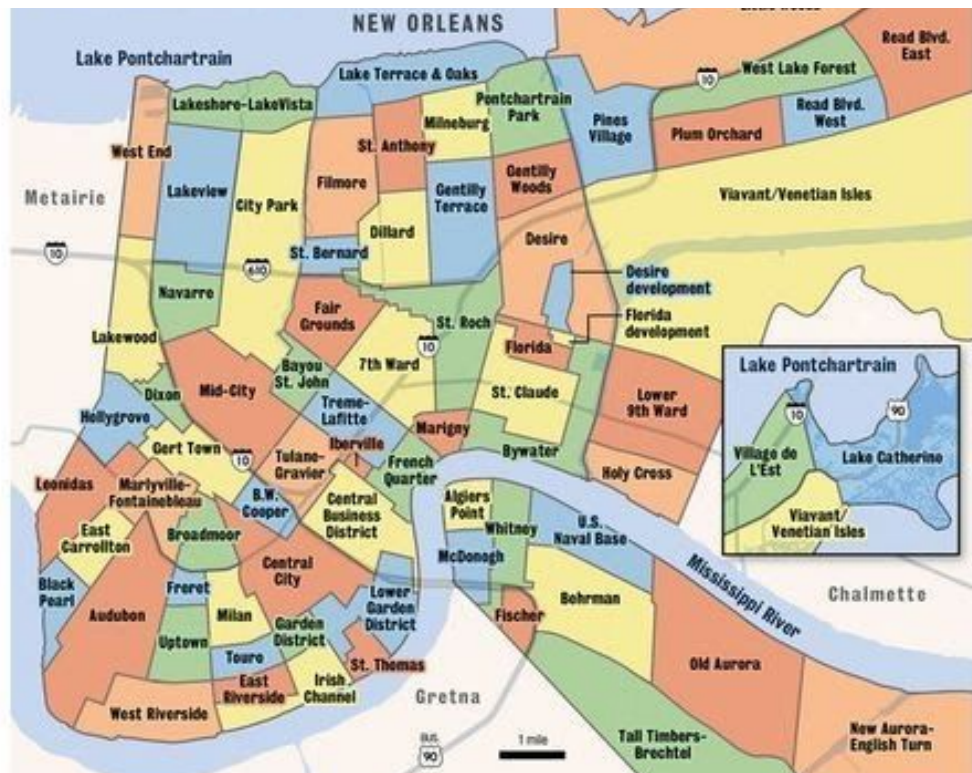
STRUCTURAL RACISM IN NEW ORLEANS

FACTS, FIGURES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY

AARON BRINK-JOHNSON, MPA, JUDY LUBIN, PHD, MPH

From its early beginnings, free and enslaved people of African descent were integral to the development of the city of New Orleans. Today, New Orleans' local economy rests largely on Black music, food and other cultural traditions that attract millions of tourists to the city annually. Racial inequities, however, have long defined Black life in the city. The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19, gentrification, displacement of long-time residents, income, wealth and educational inequality, and environmental injustices experienced by Black residents reflect the consistent, patterned effects of structural racism.

Beyond pointing out the history and impacts of structural racism in New Orleans, this city profile highlights the efforts of community activists, grassroots organizations and city government to disrupt the legacy of unjust urban policies and decision-making. In this brief we also offer working principles for Black-centered urban racial equity. Though not



intended to be a comprehensive source of information, this brief highlights key facts, figures and opportunities to advance racial equity in New Orleans.

CURE developed this brief as part of a series of city profiles on structural inequities in major cities. They were originally created as part of an internal process intended to ground ourselves in local history and current efforts to achieve racial justice in cities where our client partners are located. With heightened interest in these issues, CURE is releasing these briefs as resources for organizers, nonprofit organizations, city government officials and others who are coordinating efforts to reckon with the history of racism and anti-Blackness that continues to shape city planning, economic development, housing and policing strategies. Residents most impacted by these systems are already leading the change and leading the process of reimagining New Orleans as a place where Black Lives Matter. We hope this brief provides a useful source of information for building understanding and supporting the deep and sustained work needed to build healthy, just, and sustainable cities and communities.

The Changing Color of New Orleans

New Orleans is now home to fewer than 400,000 people,² down from nearly 500,000 prior to Hurricane Katrina in 2005.³ In the intervening years, the city's population and, in particular, its working-class Black population, have diminished drastically. In many of the city's Black neighborhoods, such as the Seventh Ward and Lower Ninth Ward, many long-time residents were unable to return after the disaster. Many historically Black areas were never fully rebuilt.⁴ In 2000, 14,008 people lived in the Lower Ninth Ward, but by 2018, there were fewer than 4,500 residents.⁵

The percentage of Black women living in the New Orleans metropolitan area has decreased dramatically from 47.2% to 37.3% since Katrina, suggesting that the affordable housing crisis and Hurricane Katrina have had a particularly devastating impact on Black women.⁶

A 2018 study by researchers at Arizona State University and Georgia State University,

Structural racism refers to a system in which public policies and societal and institutional practices and norms work together to consistently produce disadvantages and inequities experienced among Black people and racially oppressed groups.

Gentrification is a profit-driven racial and class reconfiguration of urban, working-class and communities of color that have suffered from a history of disinvestment and abandonment...Gentrification is driven by private developers, landlords, businesses, and corporations, and supported by the government through policies that facilitate the process of displacement.

These policies often take the form of rezoning, subsidies, and other strategies that make development of expensive housing easier. This new housing is often designed to court new, wealthier and mostly white people moving into neighborhoods. Displacing a group of people in favor of newcomers dilutes the political power of working-class communities and communities of color by breaking up families, communities, and voting blocs. (Adapted from Development Without Displacement by Causa Justa: Just Cause)

looked at the association between neighborhood damage inflicted by Katrina and gentrification. Overall, it found that hurricane damage was positively associated with the likelihood of a New Orleans neighborhood having gentrified in the 10 years after Katrina, and that gentrification was more likely in neighborhoods that had worse physical damage.⁷ According to a 2016 survey released by Louisiana State University, there were significant racial differences in perceptions of Hurricane Katrina recovery with nearly 80% of white residents in New Orleans believing that Louisiana has mostly recovered compared with only 59% of Black residents.⁸

Inequity in New Orleans is further intensified by rising home prices. A 2018 Tulane University study found that home prices increased in certain parts of the city by 30% in a 6-month period. The study also found that between 2012 and 2016 more than 13,000 people moved to New Orleans, many of them affluent, with disposable income, and able to afford sky-rocketing home and housing rental prices.⁹

While New Orleans has long been a tourist town, Airbnb and other short-term rental companies have contributed to ‘tourism gentrification’ in many parts of the city in the years since Katrina.^{10,11} The city’s Tremé neighborhood, once regarded as the nation’s oldest African-American neighborhood, is now nearly 45% Airbnb and other short-term rentals. This massive shift has increased rent prices and property taxes for those who live in the neighborhood, forcing many Black residents to relocate to the suburbs. The number of Airbnb rentals citywide grew from 1,905 in 2015 to 6,508 in 2018. Investors own 85% of them, some living as far away as San Francisco or New York City. A report by the Jane Place Neighborhood Sustainability Initiative has shown that the highest concentrations of short-term rentals outside of the Central Business District are in predominantly Black neighborhoods such as Central City, Tremé, the Seventh Ward, and Leonidas/Pigeon Town.¹²

Poverty and Economic Inequality

The New Orleans poverty rate is 23.8% according to a 2020 report by the Data Center.¹³ People of color in the city struggle more on average than their counterparts nationwide, while white New Orleans residents generally had better economic outcomes than white residents in other cities across the country.¹⁴ Median household income among Blacks is only \$25,806, compared to \$64,377 for whites. There are approximately six times as many Black residents living in poverty in New Orleans as there are white residents.

Black workers in New Orleans have an unemployment rate of 15.3%, which is three times higher than that of whites, only 5.1% of whom are out of work. Only 43% of Black residents own their homes, as opposed to 54% of white residents.¹⁵

Black high school graduation rates are improving in Orleans Parish and stand at 78% as of 2018.¹⁶ Promoting high school completion can be an important anti-poverty strategy; however, increasing high school graduation rates especially for Black residents in New Orleans should be

pursued along with efforts to combat racial discrimination in hiring practices and strategies that ensure fair access to employment opportunities, and jobs that pay a livable wage and provide paid sick leave for workers.

Declining Housing Affordability, Rising Evictions

The Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance says the city needs more than 33,000 affordable housing units by 2025 to address a housing-costs crisis.¹⁷ In 2019, the housing advocacy group HousingNOLA noted that the city had a net loss of 183 affordable-housing units between September and August 2018. The group gave the city a “D” grade for its affordable housing efforts.¹⁸

From 2005 to 2016, New Orleans rents rose by 17.6%, while income increased by only 10%, according to an Apartment List analysis. The research revealed that in New Orleans, 57% of renters spend at least 30% of their income on rent and over 31% spend more than half of their income on housing. Out of the 100 largest cities, New Orleans ranked near the bottom at 93rd in terms of affordability for renters, making New Orleans one of the least affordable large American cities.¹⁹ Half the city’s Black residents spend more than 30% of their monthly income on housing, compared to only 34% of white residents.²⁰

New Orleans has an eviction rate nearly twice the national average, according to a 2019 study conducted by Loyola University’s College of Law and the Jane Place Neighborhood Sustainability Initiative. The study found that 24,000 residents were displaced in less than four years,²¹ and neighborhoods with higher risk of eviction correlate with historical patterns of redlining. Researchers also noted that evictions in New Orleans disproportionately affect Black women. Additionally, in block groups that were over 90% Black, one out of every four renters faced an eviction order. These block groups make up only 29% of the block groups in New Orleans but 51% of the evictions. In contrast, in block groups that were predominately white, one out of every 24 renters had an eviction order in the last three years.²² Block groups are statistical divisions of census tracts that usually contain between 600 and 3,000 people.²³

The percentage of Black homeowners in New Orleans dropped from 51.1% in 2012 to 48.7% in 2016.²⁴ Recent data show the Black homeownership rate in the city has continued to drop with approximately 47.1% of Black residents owning their homes compared to 73% of white New Orleanians in 2018.²⁵ This decline mirrors the decreasing homeownership rate and net worth occurring among Black Americans nationwide since the 2007 financial crisis.

Historical Snapshot

The Chitimacha were the original inhabitants of New Orleans. With colonization, many Chitimacha were enslaved, killed, and displaced by white settlers.²⁹

Black people have lived in and shaped the culture of the New Orleans region from the early days of the founding of the city approximately 300 years ago.³⁰ New Orleans was a major port entry for the African slave trade in the United States. The selling of enslaved Africans occurred throughout the city including in the Central Business District, French Quarter, and hotel rooms and courtyards.³¹



EAST LOUISIANA RAILROAD CO.
TO THE
GREAT ABITA SPRINGS. R. I. FERGUSON
D. L. BLOO.

Homer Plessy bought a ticket with the East Louisiana Railroad Company which would lead to the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson Supreme Court decision³⁵

of

In 1892, an Afro-Creole man named Homer Plessy was arrested in New Orleans for violating a railway segregation statute. Many reformers sought to use his arrest as an opportunity to challenge the constitutionality of segregation in the South. In 1896 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the Plessy v. Ferguson decision that “separate but equal” accommodations were not inherently unconstitutional, setting a precedent for legalized segregation for another 50 years until the Brown v. Board of Education decision in 1954.³²

The 1900’s brought further institutionalization of segregation with local zoning ordinances that kept Black residents out of mostly white neighborhoods. In the 1930’s Black neighborhoods received a “hazardous” label as part of the redlining process. The lending maps determined who could attain home loans.

The 1950’s and 60’s brought many new construction projects including Louis Armstrong Park and the I-10 overpass as part of urban renewal efforts. These projects displaced large numbers of Black residents in New Orleans.³³



Ruby Bridges and marshals leaving William Frantz Elementary School in 1960.³⁷

Following the *Brown v. Board* decision and racial integration of schools in 1960, large groups of white people, especially mothers, gathered to block Black children's paths as they attempted to enter school buildings. The groups often spat at the children, hurled racial slurs, slashed tires and threatened further physical violence. The White Citizens Council organized a rally of more than 5000 in front of New Orleans' William Frantz Elementary School. Owing to numerous death threats, federal marshals had to be called in to escort Black children into the school. Ruby Bridges, who endured harassment from white adults and whose story has been famously captured in books and on film, was among the first Black students to integrate elementary schools in the South.³⁴

In response to the school integration policy, many white residents fled the city in the 70's. This coincided with the city becoming a popular tourist attraction.³⁵ However the city's Black residents, by and large, received little economic benefit from this increased tourism. Over the last 50 years, whites residing outside of the metro area have increasingly capitalized on the region's tourist economy, first in the French Quarter, and then followed by the city's Faubourg Marigny and Lower Garden District neighborhoods.³⁶

Hurricane Katrina in 2005 had a devastating impact on many of the city's Black residents and neighborhoods. The Federal response exacerbated existing inequities and contributed to an uneven recovery. For example, the federally-funded, state-administered Road Home program offered rebuilding grants at the lesser of pre-storm value of damaged homes or the cost to rebuild. Many homeowners in predominantly white neighborhoods had higher pre-storm values and received higher grant awards than did homeowners in predominantly Black neighborhoods. Prior to the hurricane, white families were also more likely to be fully covered by flood insurance than were Black families. The New-Orleans based Data Center notes that this was true even when the homes were of the same size, age and damage. In 2008, the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center filed a lawsuit against the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State of Louisiana. The lawsuit alleged that the Road Home grant formula was discriminatory. In 2011, HUD agreed to a \$62 million settlement.



The Tremé neighborhood in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina³⁷

State and local efforts also made an equitable recovery from the hurricane more difficult. As part of its hurricane recovery strategy, the State of Louisiana used eminent domain to seize 265 homes, mostly from Black residents, to make room for a new hospital. The city of New Orleans continued plans to demolish 5,000 units of public housing even after the hurricane. Additionally, local ordinances restricted the rebuilding of apartments and developments using

low-income housing tax credits, and instituted a moratorium on multifamily construction. A blood-relative ordinance banned residents from renting an apartment or single-family home to anyone but a relative. A 2015 Louisiana State University report found that 70% of long-term white residents returned to New Orleans within a year of the hurricane, compared with only 42% of long-term Black residents.³⁷ The combined failures of the federal, state and local response efforts led to an inequitable recovery in New Orleans.³⁸

Following Hurricane Katrina, Latoya Cantrell, who was then the president of the Broadmoor Improvement Association, helped to organize protests against the neighborhood being turned to parkland and helped to rebuild the neighborhood. She would go on to be elected a city council member in 2012 and was reelected in 2014. In 2017, she was elected mayor, making her the first Black woman to become mayor in New Orleans' more than 300-year history.³⁹

Health and Health Insurance Coverage

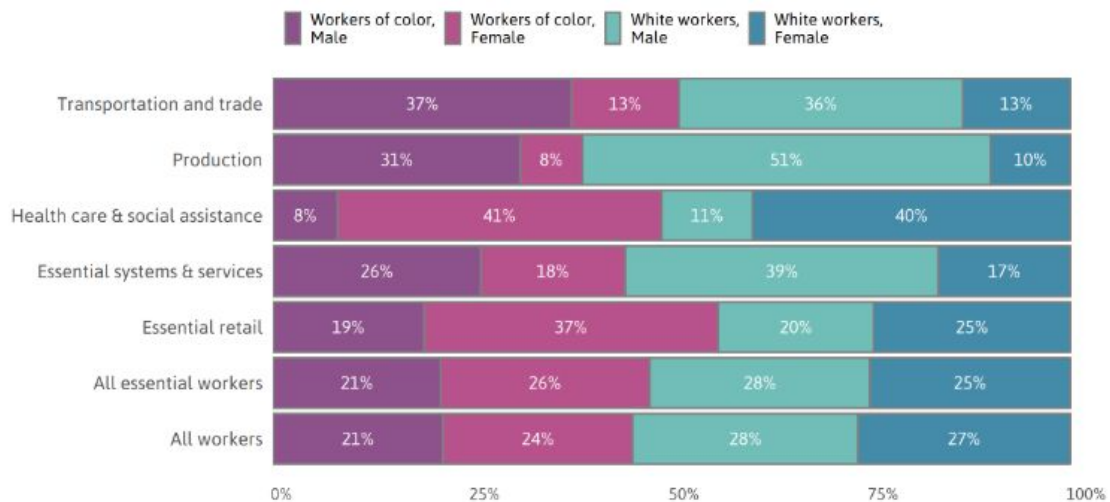
The impact of structural racism is reflected in the prevalence of underlying health conditions among Black New Orleanians, which has increased the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19. Asthma, diabetes, hypertension and other chronic conditions are higher among Black New Orleanians than their white counterparts.⁴⁰ Obesity impacts about 42% of Black residents, as opposed to 33% of the white residents.⁴¹ People who live in New Orleans' predominately white zip code 70124, are expected to live 25 years longer than residents who live in zip code 70112, which is 75% Black, according to a 2018 report by the independent Data Center. Infant mortality rates among Black women are more than twice as high as the rate among white women. As of 2018, there are approximately 7 Black infant deaths for every one white infant death in New Orleans.⁴² In 2016, the percent of white New Orleans residents between the ages of 18 and 64 without health insurance was only 10% compared to 14% of Black residents and 33% of Latinx residents.⁴³ Additionally, Black women in Louisiana have historically had among the highest rates in the United States of being uninsured.⁴⁴

COVID-19 Pandemic

Compared to other parts of the country, New Orleans has faced some of the starkest racial inequities amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The predominantly Black communities of New Orleans’ West Bank have seen much higher infection rates than majority-white neighborhoods.⁴⁵ Essential workers throughout the country are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, and people of color are overrepresented in a number of essential industries in New Orleans, according to a Data Center report (Figure 1 below). The report found that 56% of all the city’s retail jobs are held by people of color. Nearly 62% of retail workers earn less than \$30,000.⁴⁶ People of color also represent about half the transportation and trade workers, and almost half of the health care and social aid employees. Within the New Orleans metro area’s essential workforce of color, 76% of workers are Black and 14% are Latinx.⁴⁷ Women of color are also overrepresented among those holding low-wage essential jobs.

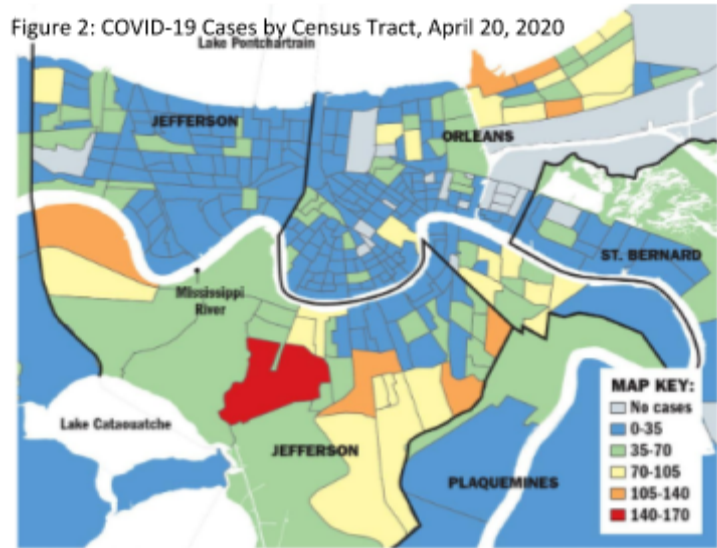
In May, a group of sanitation workers in eastern New Orleans went on strike after their demands including hazard pay and paid sick leave went unmet.⁴⁸

Figure 1: Demographics of essential workers by essential industry group (2014-2018)



(The Data Center, 2020)⁴¹

Orleans Parish which encompasses the city of New Orleans, had an alarming infection rate of 892.1 COVID cases per 100,000 people as of April 6. This was higher than that of New York City, Los Angeles, and Miami combined. A rate of 38 deaths per 100,000 people, is one of the highest in the country.⁴⁹ The geographic distribution of COVID-19 by census tract is depicted in Figure 2 above.⁵⁰ The map shows that most cases of COVID-19 have been concentrated in predominantly Black neighborhoods. Several factors explain these disparities.



(Louisiana Department of Health, 2020)

Low wages are much more common in communities such as the Lower Ninth Ward, which was 93% Black in 2018 and where the average resident earns about \$33,000 a year.^{51,52} The Seventh Ward (78% Black in 2018)⁵³ and Central City neighborhoods (71% Black in 2018)⁵⁴ are the most densely populated, with gross densities of 20 to 23 dwelling units per acre. In contrast, neighborhoods such as the Venetian Isles are the least dense with less than 1.15 units per acre.⁵⁵ Residents in more densely populated areas are considered to be at higher risk of contracting COVID-19. Similarly, living in multi-generational housing may increase the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for seniors. Twelve percent of Black Americans aged 60 years and up live with their children and grandchildren, compared to 3.8% of whites.⁵⁶

Criminal Justice and Police Violence

Black New Orleanians experience significant racial inequities in policing and incarceration. Black men in New Orleans are arrested at twice the rate of white men, while Black women are arrested at 1.6 times the rate of white women. Black men comprise 88% of the jail population, but make up only 19% of New Orleans' total population.⁵⁷

Contributing factors to these disproportionate arrests and incarceration include inequities in pretrial detention and policing in the city.⁵⁸ For example, a 2018 study found that Black residents in New Orleans were more likely to be required to pay bail, have higher bail, be less likely to be able to afford bail and more likely to remain incarcerated before trial.⁵⁹ Overpolicing is a major driver of racial inequities in arrests and incarceration. In 2016 in New Orleans, 85% percent of those arrested for marijuana-related offenses were Black and 94% of felony marijuana possession arrestees were Black.⁶⁰

New Orleans police have a long history of violence against Black people. In the 1980s, at least 13 people filed lawsuits against the city claiming police had mistreated them, or killed relatives, in response to the death of a white officer. The lawsuits were a result of what became known as the ‘Algiers 7’ incident where police conspired to punish Black people in the Algiers neighborhood of New Orleans. The city would eventually agree to pay \$2.8 million to settle the lawsuits.⁶¹ Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 police killed numerous Black people including James Brisette and Ronald Madison.⁶² In 2011 a United States Department of Justice investigation, found that the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) had engaged in “patterns of misconduct that violate the Constitution and federal law,” including racial profiling and the use of excessive force.⁶³ The New Orleans police department has been under a federal consent decree since 2013.⁶⁴

In response to more recent police killings of Black people, the New Orleans Police Department is under pressure to adopt more transformative reforms. Local activists have demanded that money currently going to NOPD be reallocated to other community interests including housing, mental health services, and education.⁶⁵ The demands are supported by local organizing groups including the Orleans Parish Prison Reform Coalition and Black Lives Matter. Community groups have organized events, engaging thousands at events in Duncan Plaza, at City Hall, on Decatur Street, on the blocks surrounding Jackson Square as well as the Central Business District.^{66,67,68}

Homelessness

Although New Orleans has made significant strides in reducing its homeless population, more than 200 women and over 700 Black residents were homeless in the city in 2019.⁶⁹

Historically the majority of those facing homelessness in New Orleans have been Black.⁷⁰ Formerly incarcerated people in New Orleans are 10 times more likely to be homeless according to a 2018 report by the Prison Policy Initiative. Homelessness is even more likely for Black women at or over the age of 45. The report also notes that people who have been incarcerated multiple times are twice as likely to be homeless as those who have served only one term.⁷¹

Hunger and Food Insecurity

Families that are food insecure lack the financial means to comfortably feed their household. In 2018, 23% of New Orleans residents were food insecure.⁷² In addition to the financial resources needed to access healthy foods, families need convenient access to food outlets such as grocery stores. The national average is one grocer for every 8,500 people. In New Orleans, it’s one in 14,000.⁷³ Community gardens and farmers markets have helped to fill this gap; however, the 2018 report *Hungry at the Banquet: Food Insecurity* compiled by the city’s Loyola University notes that the closing of two urban farms in predominantly Black communities further

exacerbated racial inequities in healthy food access. The report acknowledges that most urban gardening projects in post-Katrina New Orleans were established by white people and cites research that suggests that when food projects are initiated and maintained by white groups on behalf of communities of color, it can further entrench systems of privilege and inequity.⁷⁴ The issue is particularly critical in the predominantly Black neighborhoods of Central City, Hollygrove, and the Lower Ninth Ward.⁷⁵ Until 2010, the latter did not have a single grocery store,⁷⁶ and 25% of its residents lack transportation to get to healthier food sources.⁷⁷

Climate Change and Environmental Inequities

In 1985, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention set the standard for lead-poisoning intervention at 25 micrograms of metal per deciliter of blood. In the following years, many New Orleans children were regularly testing at levels well above that standard. In 1987, residents in New Orleans' St. Thomas housing development filed a lawsuit against the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO). The lawsuit was eventually settled with a consent decree demanding that HANO take action to abate lead in its units. HANO struggled to remove the lead and in 1991 alone HANO settled over 60 lawsuits related to lead. HUD forced the city of New Orleans to cede control of HANO developments to third-party managers. The third party manager did not remove the lead either.

In 1994, HUD inspectors visited 150 HANO units in predominantly Black neighborhoods, finding that almost all units had problems including peeling lead paint, asbestos exposure, and massive roach infestations. Hundreds of mostly Black women had blood lead levels up to 50 micrograms and above.⁷⁸ A report by the New Orleans Inspector General, released in 2017, showed that New Orleans has still failed to get the problem of lead poisoning under control. The report found multiple violations of federal law.⁷⁹

Black residents are more likely to live in neighborhoods that are susceptible to flooding and other negative effects of climate change.⁸⁰ Higher elevation areas in New Orleans have been found to be more likely to gentrify after Hurricane Katrina. These areas will likely continue to be the target of this phenomenon, often called 'climate gentrification.'⁸¹ Additionally, the 2018 New Orleans Health Department Climate Change & Health Report noted that exposure to poor air quality in the city falls along racial and socioeconomic lines and that poor Black communities are disproportionately exposed to chemicals and other air pollutants.⁸²

The Path Forward: Promising Policies and Strategies

Racial equity and justice advocates are building upon New Orleans' long history of Black organizing and grassroots activism. As in many cities across the country, there's a powerful movement afoot to dismantle structural racism and resist the forces of inequitable urban development. This movement seeks housing and tenants' rights, community-led urban development, jobs that pay a livable wage, and reallocation of funds from police to services and

programs that support health, safety and sustainability in Black communities and lower income communities of color. Increased activism and advocacy around racial justice issues in New Orleans has led to important measures by city and state officials, including actions that have altered criminal background checks to make them more transparent; reduced ex-offenders' barriers to public housing; reformed zoning laws to protect low-income residents; and improved public transportation.⁸³ Some recent efforts in New Orleans to advance racial equity are highlighted below.

COVID-19 Response

In 2020, Louisiana apportioned \$500,000 of its COVID-19 Response Fund towards the creation of a COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.⁸⁴ Additionally New Orleans' mayor announced an initiative to provide 1.8 million meals a month to those in need throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, a first of its kind nationwide.⁸⁵

Housing Justice

The New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice and other advocacy groups including Voice of the Experienced successfully pressured local agencies to enact less punitive public housing policies.⁸⁶ The Housing Authority of New Orleans recently passed an admissions policy pertaining to criminal records that limits lookback periods so landlords don't automatically deny tenants a lease for housing, and so they make individual assessments of people who've had a prior conviction.⁸⁷

Seeking to cut down on the displacement effects of Airbnb units and other short-term rentals, the New Orleans City Council unanimously approved a package of regulations in January 2019 that make it illegal to convert "whole home" investment properties into short-term rentals in residential zones.⁸⁸ The Council also approved a set of *Smart Housing Mix* policies, including mandatory inclusionary zoning and requirements that private developers create affordable housing when they build new projects.⁸⁹ The policies required that in neighborhoods such as the French Quarter and the Central Business District, developments must include 10% affordable units. Neighborhoods including Tremé, Bywater, and the Lower Garden District must set aside at least 5% of the units in a multifamily project.⁹⁰

In 2015, the New Orleans City Council voted unanimously to clarify Neighborhood Housing Improvement Fund (NHIF) policies so that expenditures from 2017 were more in line with the original mission of improving housing while combating blight. The fund provides millions of dollars "that directly result in the production or rehabilitation of homeowner or renter occupied housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income residents." The ordinance also states that neighborhood stability is to be fostered through remediation and rehabilitation rather than elimination of unsafe and deteriorating conditions.⁹¹

Transportation Equity

In 2014, the transit advocacy group Ride New Orleans released their analysis in a report entitled *The State of Transit in New Orleans: The Need for a More Efficient, Equitable, and Sustainable*

*System.*⁹² In 2019, the New Orleans mayor released a plan focused on developing a more equitable transportation system. Elements of the plan include developing a program that provides discounted transit passes to lower-income riders and youth and linking transportation to affordable housing including working to establish direct transit connections to New Orleans East, Algiers, Central City, the 7th ward and establishing incentives to encourage affordable housing along high-capacity transit lines.⁹³

City Government and Nonprofit Racial Equity Initiatives

In 2016, the city of New Orleans created the Equity New Orleans strategy, which attempts to embed racial equity into all parts of the city government's operations. City staff held four community listening sessions, conducted hundreds of interviews and focus groups, and responded to a survey to better understand the perceptions and priorities surrounding equity for the New Orleans government. The city also compiled existing data from external reports, national datasets, and metrics from ResultsNOLA, to understand the inequities in New Orleans. The city then made a number of changes focused on implementing an equity strategy including investing in equity from the City's General Fund and engaging communities. In 2017, the city officially launched its equity strategy which included establishing an Equity Office, working with all city departments to create equity teams and equity plans, engaging with staff about how to use an equity assessment tool, including equity as part of the budgeting process and in the city's performance management system, requiring racial equity training for employees, and developing inclusive hiring and community engagement strategies among other tactics. The city is also working to expand employment and business opportunities for people of color, reforming its justice system, expanding affordable housing, reducing the murder rate especially for Black men, developing a plan for health equity, and developing a resiliency strategy.⁹⁴

Also in 2014, the city launched Welcome Table New Orleans which brought people from different backgrounds together to share their experiences with race over three years. Welcome Table meetings occurred in eight different groups across New Orleans in the Mid-City, Carrollton, Algiers, Central City, New Orleans East and St. Roch neighborhoods. Funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and implemented in partnership with the Urban League of Greater New Orleans amongst other partners, the conversations resulted in 22 reconciliation projects and participants feeling more comfortable talking about race, including the impacts and root causes of structural racism.⁹⁵

Working Principles for Black-Centered Urban Racial Equity

There is still much work to be done to dismantle the legacy of structural racism in New Orleans. This includes confronting the legacy of anti-Black racism and the role it has played in shaping the city. It also requires sustained and targeted investment in Black residents, communities, organizations, businesses and institutions. Critical to fostering the condition for racial equity in the city is ending the over-policing and treatment of Black residents as criminals, while reimagining what's needed to achieve public safety and community wellness.

- **Confront anti-Black racism** and continually interrogate the role it plays in shaping every aspect of urban life including city and regional planning, neighborhood boundaries, exposure to environmental hazards and access to health care, jobs, transportation, healthy food options, parks and recreational facilities.
- **Prevent gentrification and displacement** by rejecting hypergrowth market-oriented “creative class” city planning strategies. Embrace resident-led community development practices, racial equity impact assessments and equitable development strategies that create and preserve affordable housing and promote community wealth-building and ownership.
- **Defund policing** by reimagining what is needed for public safety and ending the over policing and criminalizing of Black people. Participatory budgeting can be used to reallocate funds to support housing, health care, workforce development, jobs and social services that foster safety, economic security and community wellness.
- **Listen to and invest in local Black-led organizations, businesses and institutions** already engaged in efforts to foster racially equitable policies, systems, neighborhoods and communities. Shift power by practicing equitable partnerships and grantmaking that center on trust, mutual accountability, transparency and respect for the wisdom, experience, and skills present in Black communities.
- **Think and plan intersectionally** by developing an analysis of how race intersects with class, gender, sexuality, immigration status and ability. Understanding the ways that various forms of exclusion work together to increase vulnerability contributes to a fuller analysis of racial inequities and better targeted strategies to address them.
- **Commit to sustained and targeted investment in community economic development** strategies that support well-paying jobs, quality, affordable housing and educational and entrepreneurship opportunities for Black residents.

Community organizers, city governments, philanthropic organizations and businesses can leverage this moment to amplify calls for policies, programs, and systemic changes that support

racial equity. City governments must fully honor these demands by listening to and working in partnership with residents to develop, fund and implement policies and programs that build and support a vision for a racially equitable and just city.

Resources and Community-Based Organizations

- [Ashé Cultural Arts Center](#) uses art and culture to support human, community, and economic development.
- [BreakOUT!](#) works to end the criminalization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth to build a safer and more just New Orleans.
- [Deep South Center for Environmental Justice](#) partners with communities harmed by racially disproportionate pollution burdens and attendant climate vulnerabilities.
- [Families and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children](#) is a grassroots, state-wide, membership-based, inter-generational organization working to transform the systems that put children at risk of prison.
- [504HealthNet](#) supports policies and programs that improve access to healthcare across Louisiana, and is composed of member organizations that have a commitment to providing high quality medical care to residents of the Greater New Orleans area, irrespective of their ability to pay.
- [Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies](#) works with communities, schools, individuals and organizations to provide tailored health and wellness services that address the lack of health options and access.
- [Jane Place Neighborhood Sustainability Initiative](#) is a Community Land Trust and housing rights organization committed to creating sustainable, democratic, and economically just New Orleans Neighborhoods and communities.
- [New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice](#) continues to be a vehicle for Black and immigrant workers to build grassroots campaigns with a local and national impact.
- [Orleans Parish Prison Reform Coalition](#) is a diverse, grassroots coalition of individuals and organizations from across New Orleans who have come together to shrink the size of the jail and improve the conditions of confinement for those held in detention in Orleans Parish.
- [Step Up Louisiana](#) is committed to building political power to achieve educational parity and economic justice for all. Step Up Louisiana engages its multiracial and multigenerational membership in campaigns that directly affect lives.
- [Take 'Em Down NOLA](#) is committed to the removal of ALL symbols of white supremacy in New Orleans as a part of a broader push for racial & economic justice.
- [Total Community Action](#) works to reduce poverty through collaboration with other agencies by providing human services, experiences and opportunities that move persons from poverty to self- sufficiency.

- [Voice of the Experienced](#) is a grassroots organization founded and run by formerly incarcerated people, families and allies dedicated to restoring the full human and civil rights of those most impacted by the criminal (in)justice system.

Endnotes

1. "Where Y'at? Good Question: A History of New Orleans Neighborhoods: New Orleans Map, The Neighbourhood, New Orleans." *Pinterest*. Accessed August 19, 2020. <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/208291551498656753/>.
2. "U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: New Orleans City, Louisiana." *Census Bureau*. July 01, 2019. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/neworleanscitylouisiana>.
3. Plyer, Allison. "Facts for Features: Katrina Impact." *The Data Center*. August 26, 2016. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/katrina/facts-for-impact/#:~:text=Population decrease-,The population of New Orleans fell from 484,674 before Katrina,Housing damage>.
4. Rivlin, Gary. "White New Orleans Has Recovered from Hurricane Katrina. Black New Orleans Has Not." *Talk Poverty*. August 29, 2016. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://talkpoverty.org/2016/08/29/white-new-orleans-recovered-hurricane-katrina-black-new-orleans-not>.
5. "Lower Ninth Ward Statistical Area." *The Data Center*. April 07, 2020. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/neighborhood-data/district-8/lower-ninth-ward/>.
6. Helmuth, Allison Suppan, and Jane M. Henrici. "Women in New Orleans: Race, Poverty, and Hurricane Katrina." *Institute for Women's Policy Research*. August 2010. Accessed July 8, 2020. <https://iwpr.org/wp-content/uploads/wpallimport/files/iwpr-export/publications/D490.pdf>.
7. Wyczalkowski, Christopher K., and Eric Joseph Van Holm. "Gentrification in the Wake of a Hurricane: New Orleans after Katrina - Eric Joseph Van Holm, Christopher K Wyczalkowski, 2019." *Urban Studies*. December 11, 2018. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0042098018800445>.
8. Hasselle, Della. "Has New Orleans Recovered since Katrina? Survey: White Residents Say Yes; Black Residents Say No." *The Advocate*. August 26, 2015. Accessed July 08, 2020. https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/article_66a253a0-8541-54cb-8eee-7fb529f1d189.html.
9. Reckdahl, Katy. "What's Next For New Orleans Through An Intergenerational Lens." *The Weather Channel*. December 21, 2018. Accessed July 7, 2020. <https://features.weather.com/exodus/chapter/a-neighborhood-requiem>.
10. Gotham, Kevin Fox. "Tourism Gentrification: The Case of New Orleans' Vieux Carre (French Quarter)." *Urban Studies*. June 2005. Accessed July 7, 2020. <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.616.5724&rep=rep1&type=pdf>.
11. Peck, Emily, and Charles Maldonado. "How Airbnb Is Pushing Locals Out Of New Orleans' Coolest Neighborhoods." *HuffPost*. June 04, 2018. Accessed July 08, 2020. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/airbnb-new-orleans-housing_n_59f33054e4b03cd20b811699?guccounter=1.

12. DeDecker, Breonne, and Lydia Y. Nichols. "SHORT-TERM RENTALS, LONG-TERM IMPACTS." *Jane Place Neighborhood Sustainability Initiative*. Accessed July 8, 2020.
https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-27881231/documents/5b06c0e681950W9RSePR/STR Long-Term Impacts JPNSI_4-6-18.pdf.
13. Stein, Michael Isaac. "Data Center Report: New Orleans' Demographics Make City More Vulnerable to Coronavirus Spread and Mortality." *The Lens*. March 26, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<https://thelensnola.org/2020/03/26/data-center-report-new-orleans-demographics-make-city-more-vulnerable-to-coronavirus-spread-and-mortality/>.
14. Asante-Muhammad, Dedrick. "The Racial Wealth Divide in New Orleans." *Prosperity Now*. Accessed July 8, 2020.
https://prosperitynow.org/files/resources/Racial_Wealth_Divide_in_New_Orleans_OptimizedforScreenReaders.pdf.
15. "The Racial Wealth Divide in New Orleans." *Racial Wealth Divide Initiative*. May 2016. Accessed July 8, 2020. https://results.org/wp-content/uploads/The_Racial_Wealth_Divide_in_New_Orleans.pdf.
16. Sentell, Will, and Della Hasselle. "New Orleans High School Graduation Rates Jump as State Tops Goal of 80 Percent." *NOLA.com*. May 15, 2019. Accessed August 17, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/news/education/article_b51cb4da-3bf7-5cb2-bd9f-20453e03a711.html.
17. Elie, Lolis. "Gentrification Might Kill New Orleans Before Climate Change Does." *The New York Times*. August 27, 2019. Accessed July 08, 2020.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/27/opinion/new-orleans.html>.
18. Williams, Jessica. "New Orleans Gets 'D' in Effort to Provide Affordable Housing, Advocacy Group Says." *NOLA.com*. September 30, 2019. Accessed July 24, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/news/politics/article_83940918-e398-11e9-83cb-2329f4fa2988.html.
19. Craig, Eric. "Report: Half of NOLA's Renters Were Cost-burdened In 2016." *Curbed New Orleans*. November 17, 2017. Accessed July 08, 2020.
<https://nola.curbed.com/2017/11/17/16669846/new-orleans-rent-cost-burden-report>.
20. Coleman, Aaron Ross. "How the Crescent City Got to Be Segregated In the First Place." *Next City*. April 26, 2018. Accessed July 8, 2020.
<https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/how-the-crescent-city-got-to-be-segregated-in-the-first-place>.
21. Jackman, Caresse. "1 in 4 Renters Evicted in Black Neighborhoods: Study Finds Alarming Eviction Rates in New Orleans." *4WWL*. March 26, 2019. Accessed July 08, 2020.
<https://www.wvlw.com/article/news/study-finds-alarming-eviction-rates-in-new-orleans/289-cda9ec43-c606-454b-913d-021572d1983e>.
22. "Unequal Burden, Unequal Risk: Households Headed by Black Women Experience Highest Rates of Eviction." *Jane Place Neighborhood Sustainability Initiative*. March 2019. Accessed July 8, 2020
<https://www.jpnsi.org/evictions>.
23. "Glossary." *The United States Census Bureau*. September 16, 2019. Accessed July 10, 2020.
https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/about/glossary.html#par_textimage_4.
24. Larino, Jennifer. "Is New Orleans a City of Renters or Buyers? 7 Stats on Local Housing." *NOLA.com*. September 29, 2017. Accessed July 10, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/news/business/article_7685a66f-dd98-521f-90fa-3b12d370dc63.html.
25. Passy, Jacob. "Black homeownership has declined since 2012 — here's where Black households are most likely to be homeowners." *MarketWatch*. July 1, 2020. Accessed August 9, 2020.
<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/black-homeownership-has-declined-since-2012-heres-where-black-households-are-most-likely-to-be-homeowners-2020-06-30>.

26. Nolahistoryguy. "Homer Plessy - The Trip to Covington He Never Took." *NOLA History Guy*. February 07, 2019. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://nolahistoryguy.com/2019/02/homer-plessy-trip-covington>.
27. "Ruby Bridges." *Biography.com*. June 22, 2020. Accessed July 22, 2020. <https://www.biography.com/activist/ruby-bridges>.
28. Cooper, Linda, and James Hodge. "Late New Orleans Priest 'a Godsend' during Hurricane Katrina." *National Catholic Reporter*. May 16, 2014. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.ncronline.org/news/people/late-new-orleans-priest-godsend-during-hurricane-katrina>.
29. "Indigenous Tribes of New Orleans & Louisiana." *American Library Association*. Accessed August 17, 2020. <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/nola-tribes#:~:text=The original inhabitants of the,throughout what is now Louisiana>.
30. "State of Black New Orleans." *Urban League of Greater New Orleans*. Accessed August 17, 2020. https://urbanleaguela.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/StateofBlackNewOrleans_TenYearsPostKatrina.pdf.
31. Abrams, Eve. "Remembering New Orleans' Overlooked Ties To Slavery." *NPR*. July 18, 2015. Accessed August 17, 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2015/07/18/423803204/remembering-new-orleans-overlooked-ties-to-slavery>.
32. "Jim Crow in New Orleans." *Arresting Inequality*. Accessed July 09, 2020. <https://arrestinginequality.org/jim-crow>.
33. Gibson, Charisse. "Tremé: How 'Urban Renewal' Destroyed the Cultural Heart of New Orleans." *4WWL*. November 27, 2019. Accessed August 17, 2020. <https://www.wlvtv.com/article/news/local/orleans/trem-how-the-i-10-destroyed-a-thriving-black-neighborhood/289-a73ddc1e-dff1-468a-97e0-00392898a658>.
- "New Orleans." *History.com*. April 05, 2010. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.history.com/topics/us-states/new-orleans>.
34. Brown, Nikki. "New Orleans School Crisis." *64 Parishes*. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://64parishes.org/entry/new-orleans-school-crisis/>.
35. Souther, J. Mark. "A City Built on Baubles: A Brief History of Tourism in New Orleans: Perspectives on History: AHA." *Perspectives on History*. October 1, 2012. Accessed August 17, 2020. <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/october-2012/a-city-built-on-baubles>.
36. Campanella, Richard. "Gentrification and Its Discontents: Notes from New Orleans." *New Geography*. February 28, 2013. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.newgeography.com/content/003526-gentrification-and-its-discontents-notes-new-orleans>.
37. Seicshnaydre, Stacy, Robert A. Collins, Cashauna Hill, and Maxwell Ciardullo. "Rigging the Real Estate Market: Segregation, Inequality, and Disaster Risk." *The Data Center*. April 05, 2018. Accessed July 17, 2020. https://www.datacenterresearch.org/reports_analysis/rigging-the-real-estate-market-segregation-inequality-and-disaster-risk.
38. Seicshnaydre, Stacy, Robert A. Collins, Cashauna Hill, and Maxwell Ciardullo. "Rigging the Real Estate Market: Segregation, Inequality, and Disaster Risk." *The Data Center*. April 05, 2018. Accessed July 17, 2020. https://www.datacenterresearch.org/reports_analysis/rigging-the-real-estate-market-segregation-inequality-and-disaster-risk.

39. Chavez, Nicole. "LaToya Cantrell Elected First Female Mayor of New Orleans." *CNN*. November 19, 2017. Accessed July 23, 2020.
<https://www.cnn.com/2017/11/19/us/new-orleans-latoya-cantrell-mayor/index.html>.
40. Johnson, Akilah, and Talia Buford. "Early Data Shows African Americans Have Contracted and Died of Coronavirus at an Alarming Rate." *ProPublica*. April 03, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.propublica.org/article/early-data-shows-african-americans-have-contracted-and-died-of-coronavirus-at-an-alarming-rate>.
41. Lane, Emily. "Coronavirus Deaths of African Americans Not Fully Explained by Health Differences, Experts Say." *WDSU*. April 08, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.wdsu.com/article/coronavirus-deaths-of-african-americans-not-fully-explained-by-health-differences-experts-say/32073602#>.
42. Clark, Maria. "Inequity in City's Health System Has Adversely Affected Black New Orleanians, Report Says." *NOLA.com*. May 30, 2018. Accessed July 24, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/entertainment_life/health_fitness/article_5b5e252e-100d-5f8a-b659-ecabbdac9e0b.html.
43. Gardere, Lamar. "The New Orleans Prosperity Index Tricentennial Edition." *The Data Center*. Accessed July 23, 2020.
http://cityofno.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=2958&meta_id=407809.
44. Macklin, D. *Bureau of Minority Health Access*. 2009. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<http://ldh.la.gov/assets/docs/GovCouncil/MinHealth/HealthDisparitiesReport200809.pdf>.
45. Adelson, Jeff. "'Glaring' Racial Disparities Found in Coronavirus Infection Rates in These New Orleans Neighborhoods." *NOLA.com*. April 20, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/news/coronavirus/article_0ea8b004-8357-11ea-81e3-ff26d085e141.html.
46. Teller, Amy, Robert Habans, and Jenna Losh. "Who Are the Essential Workers Keeping the New Orleans Region Going?" *The Data Center*. May 07, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
https://www.datacenterresearch.org/reports_analysis/who-are-the-essential-workers-keeping-the-new-orleans-region-going.
47. Teller, Amy, Robert Habans, and Jenna Losh. "Who Are the Essential Workers Keeping the New Orleans Region Going?" *The Data Center*. May 07, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
https://www.datacenterresearch.org/reports_analysis/who-are-the-essential-workers-keeping-the-new-orleans-region-going.
48. Subramanian, Anand, and Angela Glover Blackwell. "To Protect Public Health, Don't Police It." *PolicyLink*. May 20, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.policylink.org/covid19-and-race/commentary/public-health-no-police>.
49. Kendi, Ibram X. "What the Racial Data Show." *The Atlantic*. April 6, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/04/coronavirus-exposing-our-racial-divides/609526/>.
50. Adelson, Jeff. "'Glaring' Racial Disparities Found in Coronavirus Infection Rates in These New Orleans Neighborhoods." *NOLA.com*. April 20, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/news/coronavirus/article_0ea8b004-8357-11ea-81e3-ff26d085e141.html.
51. "Lower Ninth Ward Statistical Area." *The Data Center*. April 7, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<https://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/neighborhood-data/district-8/lower-ninth-ward/>.
52. Yawn, Andrew. "Food Insecurity during COVID-19 Stirs Memories of Katrina for New Orleans' Ninth Ward." *The Tennessean*. May 19, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/american-south/2020/05/19/coronavirus-new-orleans-food-desert-ninth-ward-food-insecurity/5184730002/>.

53. "Seventh Ward Statistical Area." *The Data Center*. April 7, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020. <https://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/neighborhood-data/district-4/seventh-ward/>.
54. "Central City Statistical Area." *The Data Center*. April 7, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020. <https://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/neighborhood-data/district-2/central-city/>.
55. "New Orleans Yesterday and Today: Population and Land Use Trends." *City of New Orleans*. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.nola.gov/nola/media/City-Planning/Master-Plan-Chapter-2-FINAL-ADOPTED.pdf>.
56. Losh, Jenna, and Allison Plyer. "Demographics of New Orleans and Early COVID-19 Hot Spots in the U.S." *The Data Center*. April 20, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.datacenterresearch.org/covid-19-data-and-information/demographic-data/>.
57. "New Orleans." *Safety and Justice Challenge*. 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020. <http://www.safetyandjusticechallenge.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/New-Orleans-SJC-Fact-Sheet-2019.pdf>.
58. "ACLU of Louisiana Releases Blueprint for Cutting Incarceration by 50 Percent, Combating Racial Disparities." *ACLU of Louisiana*. April 05, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.laaclu.org/en/press-releases/aclu-louisiana-releases-blueprint-cutting-incarceration-50-percent-combating-racial>.
59. Daniels, Flozell, Jr., Benjamin D. Weber, and Jon Wool. "From Bondage to Bail Bonds: Putting a Price on Freedom in New Orleans." *The Data Center*. May 2018. Accessed July 17, 2020. https://s3.amazonaws.com/gnocdc/reports/Daniels_bondage_to_bail_bonds.pdf?utm_source=InJustice+Today+Newsletter&utm_campaign=3d53385f09-&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0331e33901-3d53385f09-53303735.
60. Ragany, Meghan, Rose Wilson, and Jon Wool. "Racial Disparity in Marijuana Policing in New Orleans." *Vera Institute of Justice*. July 2016. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/scans/vera/Racial-Disparity-Marijuana-Policing-Report-Web-July-2016.pdf>.
61. "City to Pay \$2.8 Million for 'Algiers 7' Violence." *UPI*. April 02, 1986. Accessed July 24, 2020. <https://www.upi.com/Archives/1986/04/02/City-to-pay-28-million-for-Algiers-7-violence/770851280200>.
62. Buncombe, Andrew. "Five New Orleans Cops to Face Fresh Trial over Notorious Shooting of Unarmed Black Men in Katrina Aftermath." *The Independent*. August 19, 2015. Accessed July 24, 2020. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/danziger-bridge-shooting-five-new-orleans-cops-to-face-fresh-trial-over-killing-of-unarmed-black-men-10462349.html>.
63. "Investigation of the New Orleans Police Department." *United States Department of Justice*. March 16, 2011. Accessed July 24, 2020. https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/crt/legacy/2011/03/17/nopd_report.pdf.
64. Chrastil, Nicholas. "Amid Calls for Police Defunding, NOPD Chief Touts Reforms." *The Lens*. June 18, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020. <https://thelensnola.org/2020/06/18/amid-calls-for-police-defunding-nopd-chief-touts-reforms>.
65. "Activists in New Orleans Demand Extreme Cut in NOPD's Budget." *WBRZ*. June 12, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020. <https://www.wbrz.com/news/activists-in-new-orleans-demand-extreme-cut-in-nopd-s-budget>.
66. Sledge, Matt. "At 'defund the Police' Rally in New Orleans, Nearby Shooting Becomes Site of NOPD-crowd Skirmish." *NOLA.com*. June 11, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020. https://www.nola.com/news/courts/article_8a775556-ac37-11ea-af7b-bbc4493841fc.html.

67. Wendland, Tegan. "Thousands Gather At Jackson Square To Rally For Justice, Equity And Defunding The Police." *WWNO*. June 6, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<https://www.wwno.org/post/thousands-gather-jackson-square-rally-justice-equity-and-defunding-police>
68. Sledge, Matt, and Ramon Antonio Vargas. "New Orleans Protesters Want to 'defund the Police.' What Does That Mean?" *NOLA.com*. June 13, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020.
https://www.nola.com/news/crime_police/article_ce51a3cc-ad94-11ea-984a-c7d11e3e3424.html.
69. Holmes, Meghan. "Blacks Make up 40 Percent of Homeless Population Nationwide." *The Louisiana Weekly*. February 3, 2020. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<http://www.louisianaweekly.com/blacks-make-up-40-percent-of-homeless-population-nationwide>.
70. "Homelessness in Greater New Orleans: A Report on Progress toward Ending Homelessness." *UNITY of Greater New Orleans*. May 2012. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<https://unitygno.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/UNITY-2012-Point-In-Time-Homeless-Count-Report.pdf>.
71. Couloute, Lucius. "Nowhere to Go: Homelessness among Formerly Incarcerated People." *Prison Policy Initiative*. August 2018. Accessed July 24, 2020.
<https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/housing.html>.
72. Blair, Caryn. "Persistent Food Insecurity Clashes with New Orleans' Rep for Glorious Gastronomy." *The Lens*. December 14, 2018. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://thelensnola.org/2018/12/14/persistent-food-insecurity-clashes-with-new-orleans-pride-in-our-vibrant-food-culture>.
73. Jolly, Chris. "Food Insecurity in New Orleans a Continuing Challenge." *Big Easy Magazine*. January 17, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.bigeasymagazine.com/2019/01/17/food-insecurity-in-new-orleans-a-continuing-challenge>.
74. Fitzgerald, Kathleen J. "Hungry at the Banquet: Food Insecurity in Louisiana 2018." *Loyola University New Orleans*. December 13, 2018. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<http://www.loyno.edu/jsri/hungry-banquet-food-insecurity-louisiana>.
75. Foster, Amara M., Nicholas Bodor, Vanessa Ulmer, and Diego Rose. "Re-Storing the Crescent City: Food Access in Three New Orleans Neighborhoods." *Hunger Center*. 2010. Accessed July 17, 2020.
https://www.hungercenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Restoring_the_Crescent_City_Foster.pdf.
76. Jolly, Chris. "Food Insecurity in New Orleans a Continuing Challenge." *Big Easy Magazine*. January 17, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.bigeasymagazine.com/2019/01/17/food-insecurity-in-new-orleans-a-continuing-challenge>.
77. Yawn, Andrew. "Food Insecurity during COVID-19 Stirs Memories of Katrina for New Orleans' Ninth Ward." *The Tennessean*. May 19, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/american-south/2020/05/19/coronavirus-new-orleans-food-desert-ninth-ward-food-insecurity/5184730002>.
78. Newkirk, Vann R., II. "The Poisoned Generation." *The Atlantic*. May 21, 2017. Accessed July 23, 2020.
<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/05/the-poisoned-generation/527229>.
79. Subbaraman, Nidhi. "A City Investigation Showed That New Orleans Had Botched Its Lead Testing For Years. Then The Report Was Buried." *BuzzFeed News*. February 04, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020.
<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/nidhisubbaraman/new-orleans-lead-water-hidden-report>.
80. "Aftermath of Katrina: A Time of Environmental Racism." *ESRI*. Accessed July 23, 2020.
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=2106693b39454f0eb0abc5c2ddf9ce40>.

81. Aune, Kyle T., Dean Gesch, and Genee S. Smith. "A Spatial Analysis of Climate Gentrification in Orleans Parish, Louisiana Post-Hurricane Katrina." *Environmental Research*. June 2020. Accessed July 08, 2020. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0013935120302772#!>
82. "Climate Change & Health Report." *New Orleans Health Department*. April 2018. Accessed July 23, 2020. [https://www.nola.gov/getattachment/Health/Climate-Change-\(1\)/Planning-Tools-and-Data/Climate-Change-and-Health-Report-2018-Final.pdf](https://www.nola.gov/getattachment/Health/Climate-Change-(1)/Planning-Tools-and-Data/Climate-Change-and-Health-Report-2018-Final.pdf).
83. LaBorde, Lauren. "New Orleans Gentrification Report: Many Formerly Black Neighborhoods Are Now 'majority-white'." *Curbed New Orleans*. September 06, 2016. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://nola.curbed.com/2016/9/6/12821038/new-orleans-gentrification-report>.
84. "Louisiana Devotes \$500,000 to Find Solutions to Racial Disparities in COVID-19 Deaths." *WDSU*. April 24, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.wdsu.com/article/louisiana-devotes-dollar500000-to-find-solutions-to-racial-disparities-in-covid-19-deaths/32271406>.
85. "New Orleans Mayor Announces Mass Feeding Initiative to Address COVID-19 Food Insecurity." *WDSU*. June 02, 2020. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.wdsu.com/article/new-orleans-mayor-announces-mass-feeding-initiative-to-address-covid-19-food-insecurity/32731343>.
86. Williams, Jessica. "At Activists' Urging, HANO Revises Draft Policy on Accepting Applicants with Criminal Records." *NOLA.com*. March 29, 2016. Accessed July 23, 2020. https://www.nola.com/news/politics/article_55375948-e41c-5b83-912b-86d269f4da44.html.
87. "Ending Drug-Related Evictions in Public Housing." *Local Progress: The National Municipal Policy Network*. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://localprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Endingn-Drug-Related-Evictions-in-Public-Housing.pdf>.
88. Perkins, Tom. "'Like a Ghost Town': How Short-term Rentals Dim New Orleans' Legacy." *The Guardian*. March 13, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/mar/13/new-orleans-airbnb-treme-short-term-rentals>.
89. Dube, Baridilo. "New Orleans Promotes Housing Equity Through New Zoning Legislation." *Prosperity Now*. April 10, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://prosperitynow.org/blog/new-orleans-promotes-housing-equity-through-new-zoning-legislation>.
90. Brey, Jared. "New Orleans Adopts a Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning Law." *Next City*. April 11, 2019. Accessed July 23, 2020. <https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/new-orleans-adopts-a-mandatory-inclusionary-zoning-law>.
91. Anderson, Michael. "Housing Trust Fund: One Answer to Gentrification in New Orleans." *Housing Trust Fund Project*. 2015. Accessed July 17, 2020. <https://housingtrustfundproject.org/one-answer-to-gentrification-in-new-orleans/>.
92. "The State of Transit in New Orleans: The Need for a More Efficient, Equitable, and Sustainable System." *Ride*. 2014. Accessed July 23, 2020. http://rideneworleans.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/RideNewOrleans_StateOfTransitSystem_071614_FINAL21.pdf.
93. "Moving New Orleans: The Road to Equitable Transportation." *City of New Orleans*. May 02, 2019. Accessed July 17, 2020. https://www.nola.gov/nola/media/311/MovingNewOrleans_5-2-19-2.pdf.
94. "CITY PROFILE ON RACIAL EQUITY: New Orleans, Louisiana." *National League of Cities*. 2018. Accessed July 23, 2020. [https://www.nlc.org/sites/default/files/2018-03/REAL New Orleans City Profile.pdf](https://www.nlc.org/sites/default/files/2018-03/REAL%20New%20Orleans%20City%20Profile.pdf).

95. Hasselle, Della. "'Welcome Table' Group Creating 'Equity Circle' in Mid-City." *MidCity Messenger*. November 15, 2016. Accessed July 23, 2020.
<https://midcitymessenger.com/2016/11/15/welcome-table-group-creating-equity-circle-in-mid-city/>.