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PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Allison Plyer, Deputy Director
Greater New Orleans Community Data Center
504-304-8260 ext 225/ cell 847-772-1716
allisonp@gnocdc.org

New data reveals 16 New Orleans neighborhoods have less than half their pre-Katrina households

Postal records give solid estimates, provide innovative approach to measuring recovery

NEW ORLEANS — (August 21, 2008) — Three years after Hurricane Katrina, many New Orleans neighborhoods still struggle to recover. New data analysis, announced this week by Greater New Orleans Community Data Center, reveals that 16 of 50 New Orleans neighborhoods that flooded following Katrina have less than half of the households they did in June 2005. The GNOCDC used media/marketing company Valassis' comprehensive mailing list database to create a map showing the percentage of 2005 active-address households that receive mail today across New Orleans neighborhoods.

According to the new data, neighborhoods struggling most to repopulate include many lower income neighborhoods (according to Census 2000 income data) such as the heavily damaged Lower Ninth Ward, which currently has only 11 percent of its pre-Katrina number of households. Others include middle income neighborhoods such as West Lake Forest and Milneburg where recovery has reached 33 and 44 percent respectively, and neighborhoods with above average incomes such as the Pontchartrain Park and West End, which have only 38 and 45 percent of pre-Katrina households.

The data, launched today at www.gnocdc.org, gives neighborhood leaders and decision-makers the most current information on block-level recovery by relying on the Valassis database of households receiving mail. Valassis works closely with the U.S. Postal Service, and owns the most comprehensive mailing list in the country. This innovative approach can change the way New Orleans and other cities determine population following a disaster, according to Allison Plyer, deputy director of the GNOCDC.

“Estimating active households in struggling neighborhoods is labor intensive and often a strain on scant resources,” Plyer said. “This data, updated regularly, gives leaders and decision makers a very detailed, up-to-date tool to measure the progress of their neighborhoods. It frees their time to focus on rebuilding and helps them identify areas with the greatest need.”

The GNOCDC map shows that many other badly flooded neighborhoods such as Broadmoor, Lakewood, Mid-City and Treme have all reached more than 70 percent of their pre-storm number of households. And non-flooded neighborhoods – in “sliver by the river” areas such as the Irish Channel and the Central Business District, as well as Algiers Point and McDonough on the West Bank – now exceed 100% of their pre-storm households.

About Greater New Orleans Community Data Center

The Greater New Orleans Community Data Center is a product of Nonprofit Knowledge Works. Founded in 1997, the Data Center is building sustainable sources of data and information to support planning and decision-making in a rapidly changing post-catastrophe environment. More information is available at www.gnocdc.org.

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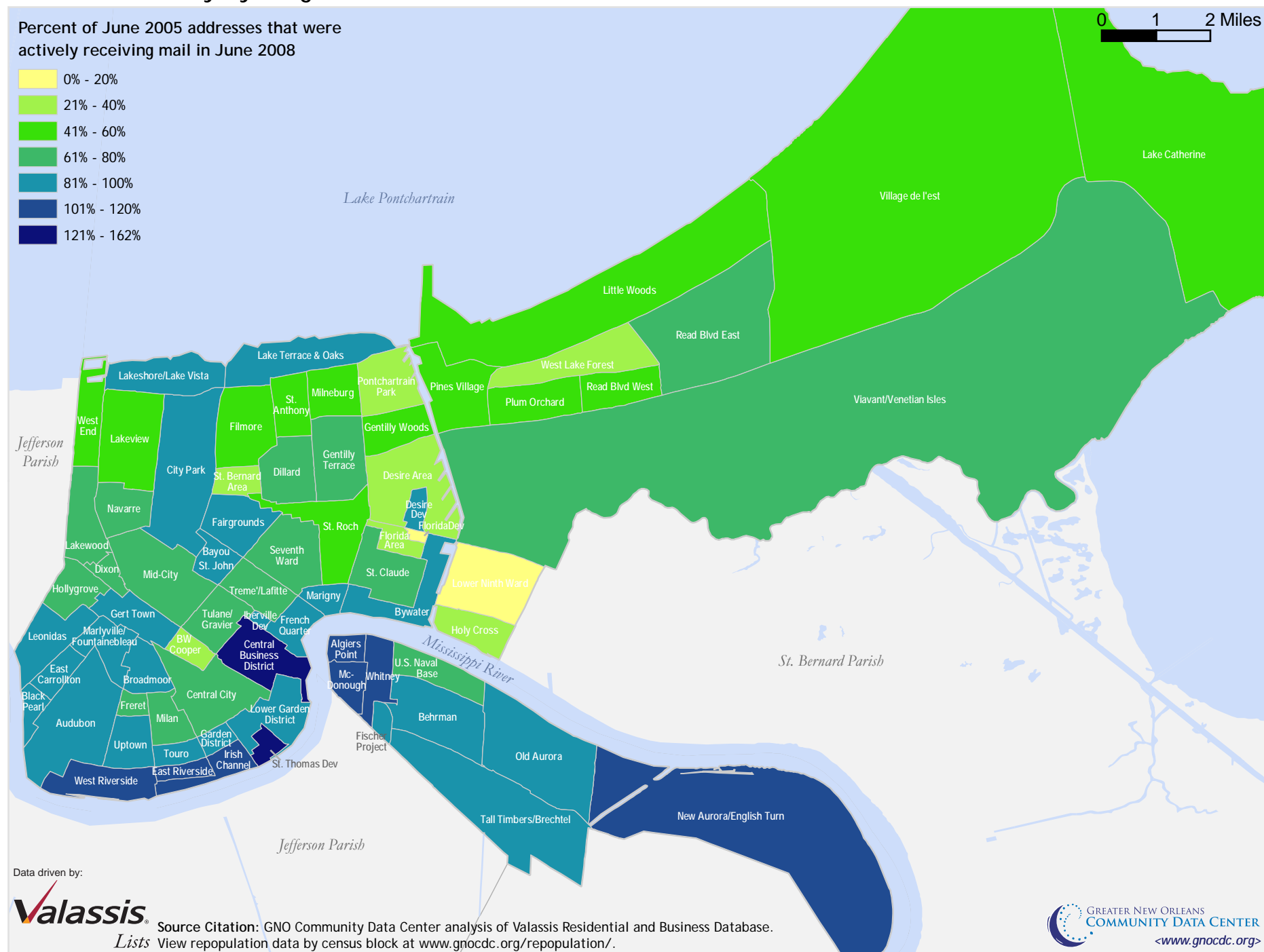
Households Actively Receiving Mail by Neighborhood in New Orleans

Neighborhood	Jun 2005	Jun 2008	% Recovery
Algiers Point	1,322	1,351	102.2%
Audubon	7,576	7,344	96.9%
B.W. Cooper	1,269	357	28.1%
Bayou St. John	2,292	1,921	83.8%
Behrman	3,878	3,697	95.3%
Black Pearl	1,115	1,107	99.3%
Broadmoor	3,139	2,551	81.3%
Bywater Neighborhood	2,570	2,091	81.4%
Central Business District	1,316	1,585	120.4%
Central City Neighborhood	8,175	6,405	78.3%
City Park	1,670	1,534	91.9%
Desire Area	1,419	456	32.1%
Desire Development	136	109	80.1%
Dillard	2,608	1,728	66.3%
Dixon	631	453	71.8%
East Carrollton	2,286	2,275	99.5%
East Riverside	1,539	1,601	104.0%
Fairgrounds	3,091	2,843	92.0%
Filmore	2,831	1,345	47.5%
Fischer Project	300	294	98.0%
Florida Area	1,351	457	33.8%
Florida Development	460	1	0.2%
French Quarter	4,106	3,917	95.4%
Freret	1,014	671	66.2%
Garden District	1,216	1,192	98.0%
Gentilly Terrace	4,417	3,380	76.5%
Gentilly Woods	1,512	764	50.5%
Gert Town	1,513	1,411	93.3%
Hollygrove	2,751	1,772	64.4%
Holy Cross	2,240	774	34.6%
Iberville Development	830	815	98.2%
Irish Channel	1,973	2,002	101.5%
Lake Catherine	733	420	57.3%
Lake Terrace & Oaks	688	653	94.9%
Lakeshore/Lake Vista	1,608	1,424	88.6%
Lakeview Neighborhood	4,711	1,912	40.6%
Lakewood	786	590	75.1%

Neighborhood	Jun 2005	Jun 2008	% Recovery
Leonidas	3,726	3,521	94.5%
Little Woods	16,504	8,907	54.0%
Lower Garden District	4,406	4,073	92.4%
Lower Ninth Ward Neighborhood	5,363	601	11.2%
Marigny	2,133	2,079	97.5%
Marlyville/Fountainebleau	3,010	2,706	89.9%
McDonough	1,270	1,323	104.2%
Mid-City Neighborhood	6,634	4,652	70.1%
Milan	3,452	2,720	78.8%
Milneburg	2,273	1,008	44.3%
Navarre	1,528	972	63.6%
New Aurora/English Turn	2,127	2,198	103.3%
Old Aurora	6,241	6,215	99.6%
Pines Village	1,864	862	46.2%
Plum Orchard	2,488	1,210	48.6%
Pontchartrain Park	1,024	389	38.0%
Read Blvd East	3,099	2,162	69.8%
Read Blvd West	2,107	1,104	52.4%
Seventh Ward	6,470	4,665	72.1%
St. Anthony	2,450	1,088	44.4%
St. Bernard Area	1,936	446	23.0%
St. Claude	4,490	2,957	65.9%
St. Roch	4,735	2,804	59.2%
St. Thomas Development	386	627	162.4%
Tall Timbers/Brechtel	5,504	4,679	85.0%
Touro	1,829	1,803	98.6%
Treme'/Lafitte	3,556	2,520	70.9%
Tulane/Gravier	1,830	1,215	66.4%
U.S. Naval Base Neighborhood	1,404	1,106	78.8%
Uptown Neighborhood	3,329	3,274	98.3%
Viavant/Venetian Isles	616	383	62.2%
Village de l'est	3,948	2,322	58.8%
West End	2,711	1,218	44.9%
West Lake Forest	3,822	1,276	33.4%
West Riverside	2,838	2,864	100.9%
Whitney	1,006	1,007	100.1%

Source Citation: GNO Community Data Center analysis of Valassis Residential and Business Database. View repopulation data by census block at www.gnocdc.org/repopulation/.

Percent Recovery by Neighborhood in New Orleans



Extent of Flooding from Katrina in New Orleans

