

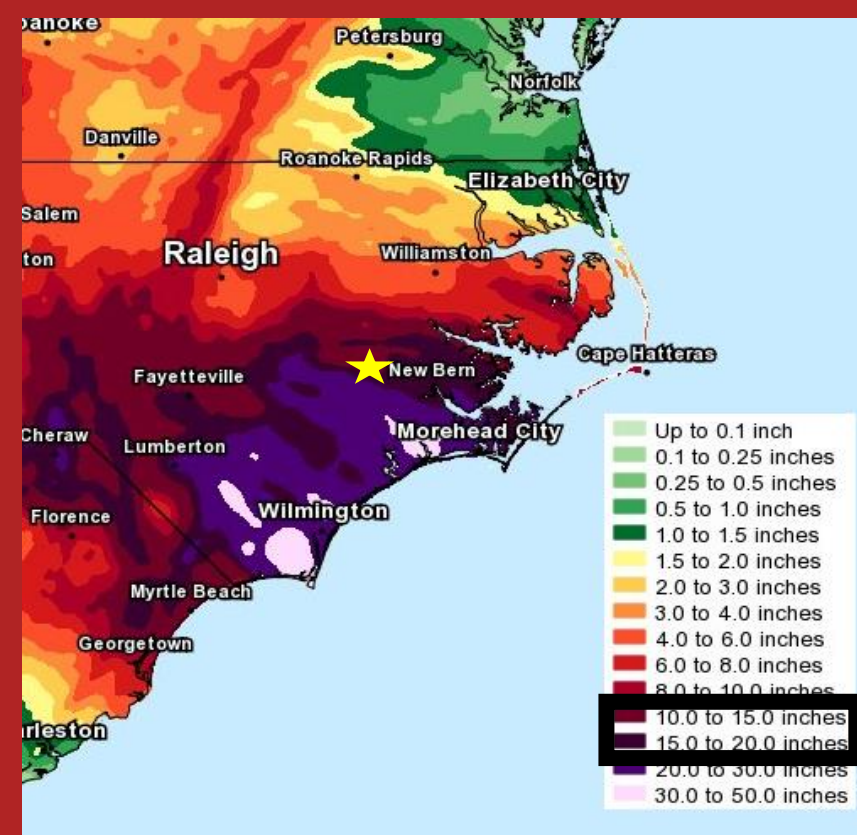
Impacts of Hurricane Florence: An Undergraduate Research Assistant Perspective

Sarah Wise, Health Analytics at D'Youville College, Undergraduate Junior
Department of Health Administration and Public Health

BACKGROUND

- Hurricane Florence was a category one hurricane that caused extensive damage from freshwater flooding in the Carolinas in September of 2018.

- New Bern, North Carolina, is a small town that is in a unique location, being between both the Neuse and Trent rivers.



PC: National Weather Service

PURPOSE

Post disaster food insecurity research to better understand the food environment in a post disaster setting.

CHALLENGES

- Ease of access in our ability to reach a number of locations and people within our time spent in New Bern.
- Community outreach to connect with those who experienced hardship due to the storm.
- Navigating emotions and hardships while interacting with those who experienced loss and remaining impartial.
- Personal limitations in my own skill set to persuade participation in interviews and surveys.

IMPROVEMENTS

- Prepare for the emotions that come with hearing people's stories post disaster.
- Create programs to spread awareness about the post disaster landscape and how to navigate and prepare to provide aid.
- Work with local programs to facilitate more communication and opportunities to help.

DYOUVILLE



PC: Sarah Wise

It was quite **traumatic**. This is not the first time in my life where **I've lost everything...**

TIMELINE

Day 1:

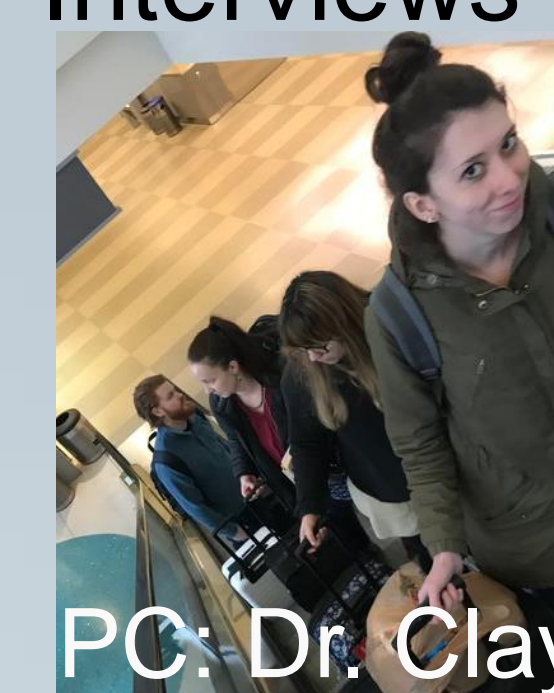
- Farmer's Market
- Market Basket



PC: Dr. Lauren Clay

Day 2:

- Getting Settled
- Market Basket
- Farmer Interviews



PC: Dr. Clay

Day 3:

- Fairfield Harbor
- Market Basket
- Farmer Interviews



PC: Wise

Day 4:

- Scheduled Interviews
- Market Basket
- Farmer Interviews

Day 5:

- County Extension Office
- Scheduled Interviews

Day 6:

- Fairfield Harbor POA
- Oaks Elementary
- Scheduled Interviews

Day 7:

- Peace Center
- Media Interview
- Scheduled Interviews



PC: Dr. Lauren Clay

BENEFITS AND TAKEAWAYS

- Personally: Ignited a passion for research and more confidence in my own abilities.
- Professionally: Provides experiences and insights to post disaster environments that can offer a unique viewpoint that others may not have.
- Educationally: Helped to expand knowledge in multiple fields and created an environment that encouraged learning and pursuit of higher education.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Dr. Lauren Clay and Dr. Alex Greer for pushing me past my comfort zone to experience new, exciting things..

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