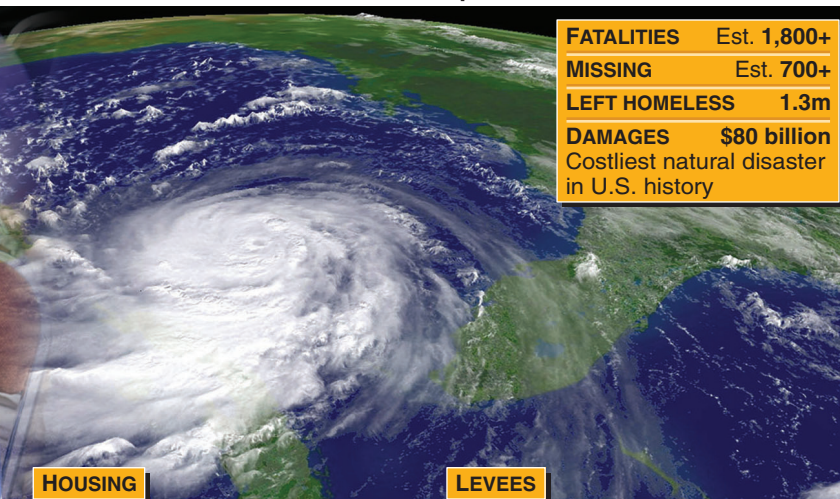


Hurricane Katrina – one year on

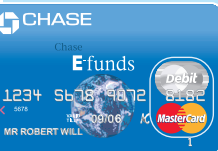
A year after Katrina slammed into the U.S. Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005, killing nearly 2,000 people, the job of clearing debris remains unfinished and thousands still live in mobile homes. Rebuilding of flood defences has been delayed and little has been done to ensure the welfare of the poor in a rebuilt New Orleans

FATALITIES	Est. 1,800+
MISSING	Est. 700+
LEFT HOMELESS	1.3m
DAMAGES	\$80 billion
Costliest natural disaster in U.S. history	



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Congressional investigation reported in June that disaster management agency **FEMA** wasted up to **\$1.4bn** after being tricked into funding hundreds of fraudulent schemes



Debit cards handed out to victims by FEMA used to buy items such as champagne,

tropical holidays and erotic videos

Audit also found people used fictional addresses, fake Social Security numbers and identities of dead people to fraudulently register for assistance

CLEANUP

So far, **\$3.6bn** has been spent on removal of around 100m cubic yards of debris – more than combined wreckage resulting from **Hurricane Andrew** in 1992 and **World Trade Centre** collapse in 2001



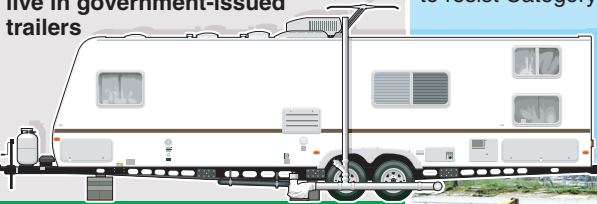
Investigation found that companies contracted to clear debris charged government up to six times what they paid to their subcontractors

HOUSING

350,000 homes destroyed / damaged in Louisiana and Mississippi

Only half of 465,000 residents of New Orleans are back – many wealthy and white, greatly altering demographics of city which used to be two-thirds black

Over 100,000 families along coast live in government-issued trailers



REBUILDING

One year after Katrina, only \$44bn of \$110bn allocated for reconstruction has been spent

Louisiana finally won funding in July for **\$9bn** programme which pays home-owners up to **\$150,000** either to repair damaged property or rebuild elsewhere in state

People leaving state eligible for 60% buyout



LEEVES

Federal government has committed about \$6bn to repair and improve New Orleans' existing levee system

White House waiting for completion of **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** study in Dec 2007, before deciding whether to enhance flood protection system to resist Category 5 hurricane

State officials say **Category 5** protection plan would cost up to **\$30bn**



POVERTY

Gulf Opportunity zone plan approved by **President Bush** gives **\$8.7bn** in tax breaks to developers of low-income housing, small businesses and individuals affected not only by Katrina, but also **Hurricanes Rita** and **Wilma**

