

Hurricane Katrina

Impact Study

Please complete the following questionnaire and return to:

Baton Rouge Black Chamber of Commerce

263 3rd St., Suite 704

Baton Rouge, LA 70801

225.381.8480 phone

225.343.4247 fax

c/o Phillip Wallace

If your business was established prior to Hurrican Katrina in 2005 please answer the following questions:

Disaster

1. What was the biggest problem the disaster caused your business?

- a. Lost records and documents
- b. Uninsured physical damage
- c. Lost sales and customers
- d. (Other)

2. How many days was it before you were up and at least partially operating?

- a. One day
- a. b.Two to three days
- b. Four to seven days
- c. More than one week
- d. Still not partially operating
- e. (DK/Refuse)

3. In dollars, approximately how much physical damage did your business property suffer as a result of the disaster?

- a. None
- b. \$1 - \$4,999
- c. \$5,000 - \$9,999
- d. \$10,000 - \$99,999
- e. \$100,000 or more
- f. Don't know

4. Did you have an emergency preparedness plan in the event of a man made or natural disaster?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Government Contracting

5. In the last THREE YEARS, have you won one or more contracts to provide goods and/or services directly to a government agency or unit – Federal, state or local?

- a. .Yes
- b. No

6. In the last THREE years, have you won one or more contracts to provide goods and/or services to another business, which then used your work in its sales to a government agency or unit?

- a. a.Yes
- b. No

8. In dollars, is the largest share of those sales made directly and/or indirectly to the Federal government, state governments, or local governments?

- 1. Federal
- 2. State
- 3. Local
- 4. Don't know

9. Do you intend to compete for one or more government contracts in the next three years?

- a. Yes

- b. No
- c. Don't know

10. If not, why don't you intend to compete for a government contract?

- a. Hassle not worth it; paperwork, rules
- b. Govt. doesn't buy what I sell
- c. Don't know how to go about it; not aware of opportunities
- d. Contracts are too big
- e. No interest; not in plans
- f. Don't bid for contracts
- g. Enough business without govt. contract
- h. Slow pay
- i. Other

11. In the last THREE years, have you obtained a loan, a loan guarantee, or a grant for this business from any government agency or unit?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. (DK/Refuse)

Organization Membership:

12. Are you, or is your business, a member of a business organization, trade or professional association, local Chamber of Commerce or a similar business group?

- a. Yes
- b. No

IF NOT which best describes why you are not currently a member of any of these organizations?

- 1. You haven't had time to look into it.
- 2. Few or no visible benefits
- 3. Cost is too high
- 4. Demands too much time.
- 5. You're not a "joiner"
- 6. Don't know

13. How many such business, trade or professional organizations are you or your business a member of?

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14. (Think of the one organization that is most important to you.) How would you characterize the organization?

- a. National or international organization
- b. State or regional organization
- c. Local or neighbourhood organization
- d. Don't know

15. Is it a?:

- a. Trade or professional association
- b. General business organization
- c. Booster or promotional organization
- d. Don't know

16. Are you very active, active, somewhat active, not too active, or not at all active in the organization?

- a. Very active
- b. Active
- c. Somewhat active
- d. Not too active
- e. Not at all active
- f. Don't know

17. On a scale of one-to-five, with 5 meaning very important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is it to you that your organization/at least one of your organizations:?

A. Provides an opportunity to network with other business owners

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

B. Represents you or involves you in government matters or public policies that affect your business

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

C. Makes you part of a group that can purchase discounted goods or services

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

D. Develops industry standards or procedures

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

E. Promotes your community or industry

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

F. Offers useful management or marketing ideas

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

G. Has social activities

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

H. Holds trade shows

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

I. Provides technical information specific to your industry

1. Very important
2. (4)
3. (3)
4. (2)
5. Not at all important

J. Sponsors a continuing education-type program

- 1. Very important
- 2. (4)
- 3. (3)
- 4. (2)
- 5. Not at all important

K. Supports one or more charitable activities

- 1. Very important
- 2. (4)
- 3. (3)
- 4. (2)
- 5. Not at all important

L. Informs you about government rules and obligations

- 1. Very important
- 2. (4)
- 3. (3)
- 4. (2)
- 5. Not at all important

18. In the last year, have you attended a conference, seminar, meeting, trade show, etc., sponsored by a business organization, trade or professional association that required you to spend at least two nights away from home?

- a. Yes
- b. No

19. Was the single most important benefit of attendance?

- a. Networking opportunities
- b. Continuing education
- c. Getting away from the business for a few days
- d. Participating in or attending a trade show
- e. Other

20. What is the single most important type of information you obtain from belonging to business organizations, trade, or professional associations?

- a. New technologies and the latest way of doing things
- b. Your specific industry's news and information
- c. Markets and customers
- d. General business skills
- e. Applicable laws and regulations
- f. Other

About the Business:

21. Name of the business:

22. When was this business started? (month/year)

23. When did you become owner of this business?

24. How were you able to open your business?

Start it from scratch	
Buy an existing business you were previously working for	
Buy an existing business you were not previously working for	
Became a partner in a business you were previously working for	
Became a partner in a business you were not previously working for	
Take on/Inherit family business	
Other (specify)	
DK/Refuse	

25. Including yourself (and your business partners), how many people are employed by your main business?

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26. Which best describes you primary business activity:

Services
Retail (including restaurants)
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate
Transportation
Business and Professional Services
Wholesale/ Distribution
Manufacturing
Construction
Other

About the Entrepreneur:

27. Name of the owner:

28. ZIP Code:

29. Phone :

30. Email:

31. Gender: Male Female

32. Race/Ethnicity :

White Hispanic African-American Asian

Native American

33. Highest level of Education Completed:

High School High School College Graduate School

34. Was either of your parents ever involved in owning and operating their own business?

Yes No

35. If yes, please briefly describe the business activity: