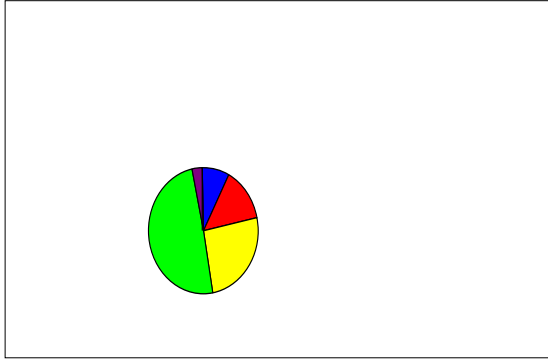


**CAPER** The Crime And Policy Evaluation Research group

Louisiana State University

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## Fact Sheet



**T**hese limited perceptions of criminal activity among survey respondents are reflected in the high levels of personal safety expressed by the survey respondents depicted in Figures 4 and 5. Specifically, within their neighborhood, a full 92% of respondents indicate that they feel very or fairly safe, while a smaller but still substantial proportion indicated that they felt very or fairly safe outside of their neighborhood but still in Baton Rouge (77%).

**T**he rapid population influx experienced by Baton Rouge after Hurricane Katrina spawned significant discussion and speculation on crime, fear of crime, and personal safety among the media and the lay population. Our data provide a benchmark roughly six months after this significant population event. By this time things had settled down some in East Baton Rouge Parish, but it was not completely clear how much the population had grown or whether crime and other social problems would increase or stay level.

**W**e consider the results from this study encouraging, in the sense that trust in the police is very high, at least three quarters of respondents perceive that criminal activity seldom occurs in their neighborhoods, and between three quarters and nine-tenths of the respondents express feeling safe in their neighborhoods and the broader community of Baton Rouge.

**Authors**