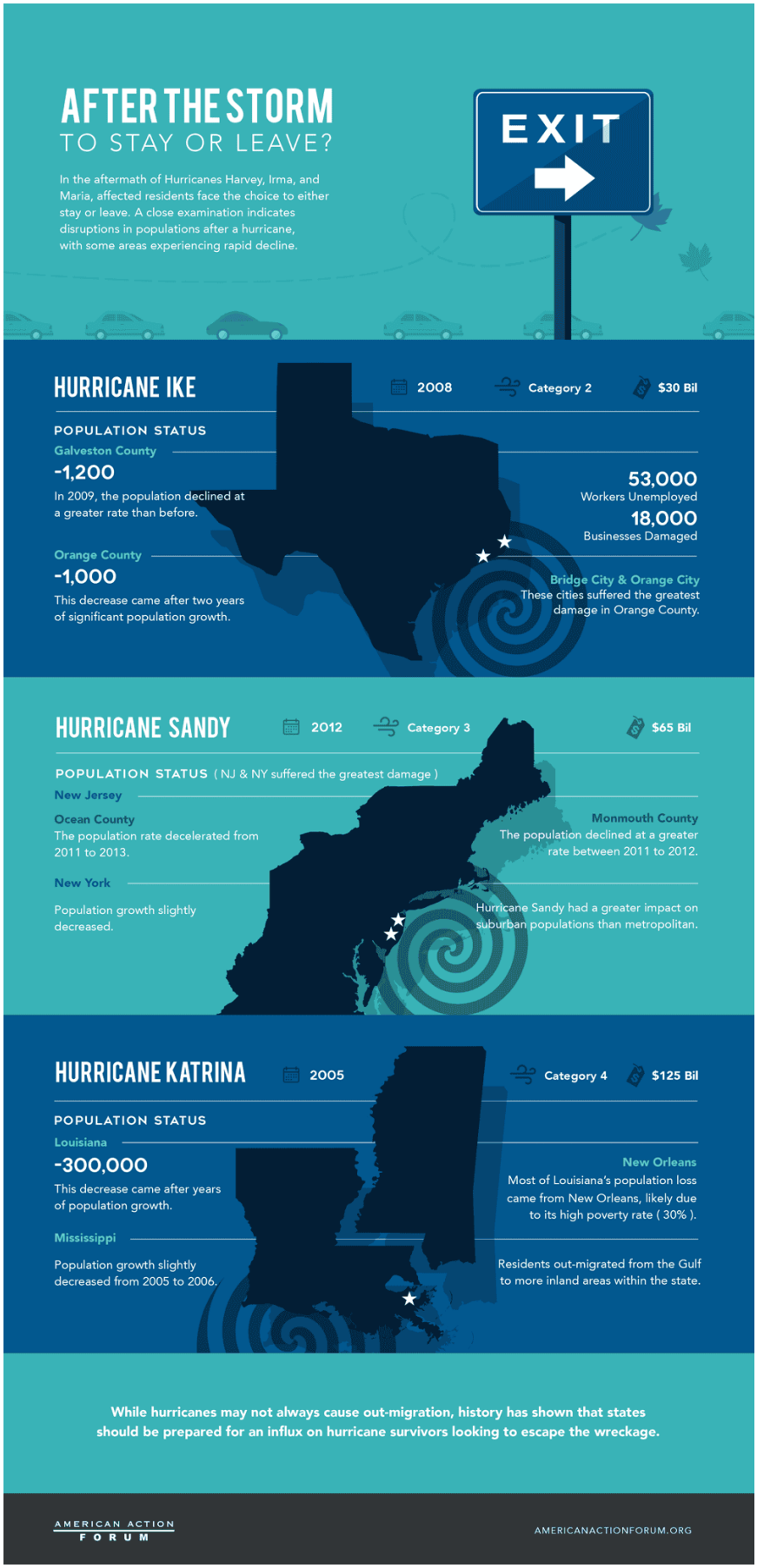
Infographic

After the Storm: To Stay or Leave?

NOVEMBER 6, 2017

The American Action Forum released an infographic that illustrates how population trends were impacted in regions overwhelmingly impacted by the three costliest hurricanes in American history. This data suggests that hurricanes disrupt population trends, and in some cases, can cause out-migration. In the wake of the recent hurricanes, states should be prepared for the potential influx of individuals moving from areas impacted by these hurricanes.

Read the entire analysis here.


AFTER THE STORM
TO STAY OR LEAVE?
In the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, affected residents face the choice to either stay or leave. A close examination indicates disruptions in populations after a hurricane, with some areas experiencing rapid decline.
EXIT
HURRICANE IKE
2008
Category 2
$30 Bil
POPULATION STATUS
Galveston County
-1,200
In 2009, the population declined at a greater rate than before.
Orange County
-1,000
This decrease came after two years of significant population growth.
53,000
Workers Unemployed
18,000
Businesses Damaged
Bridge City & Orange City
These cities suffered the greatest damage in Orange County.
HURRICANE SANDY
2012
Category 3
$65 Bil
POPULATION STATUS (NJ & NY suffered the greatest damage)
New Jersey
Ocean County
The population rate decelerated from 2011 to 2013.
Monmouth County
The population declined at a greater rate between 2011 to 2012.
New York
Population growth slightly decreased.
Hurricane Sandy had a greater impact on suburban populations than metropolitan.
HURRICANE KATRINA
2005
Category 4
$125 Bil
POPULATION STATUS
Louisiana
-300,000
This decrease came after years of population growth.
New Orleans
Most of Louisiana's population loss came from New Orleans, likely due to its high poverty rate (30%).
Mississippi
Population growth slightly decreased from 2005 to 2006.
Residents out-migrated from the Gulf to more inland areas within the state.
While hurricanes may not always cause out-migration, history has shown that states should be prepared for an influx on hurricane survivors looking to escape the wreckage.
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