

Darshini Vancheeswaran, Megan Watkins, and Dr. David Berlan

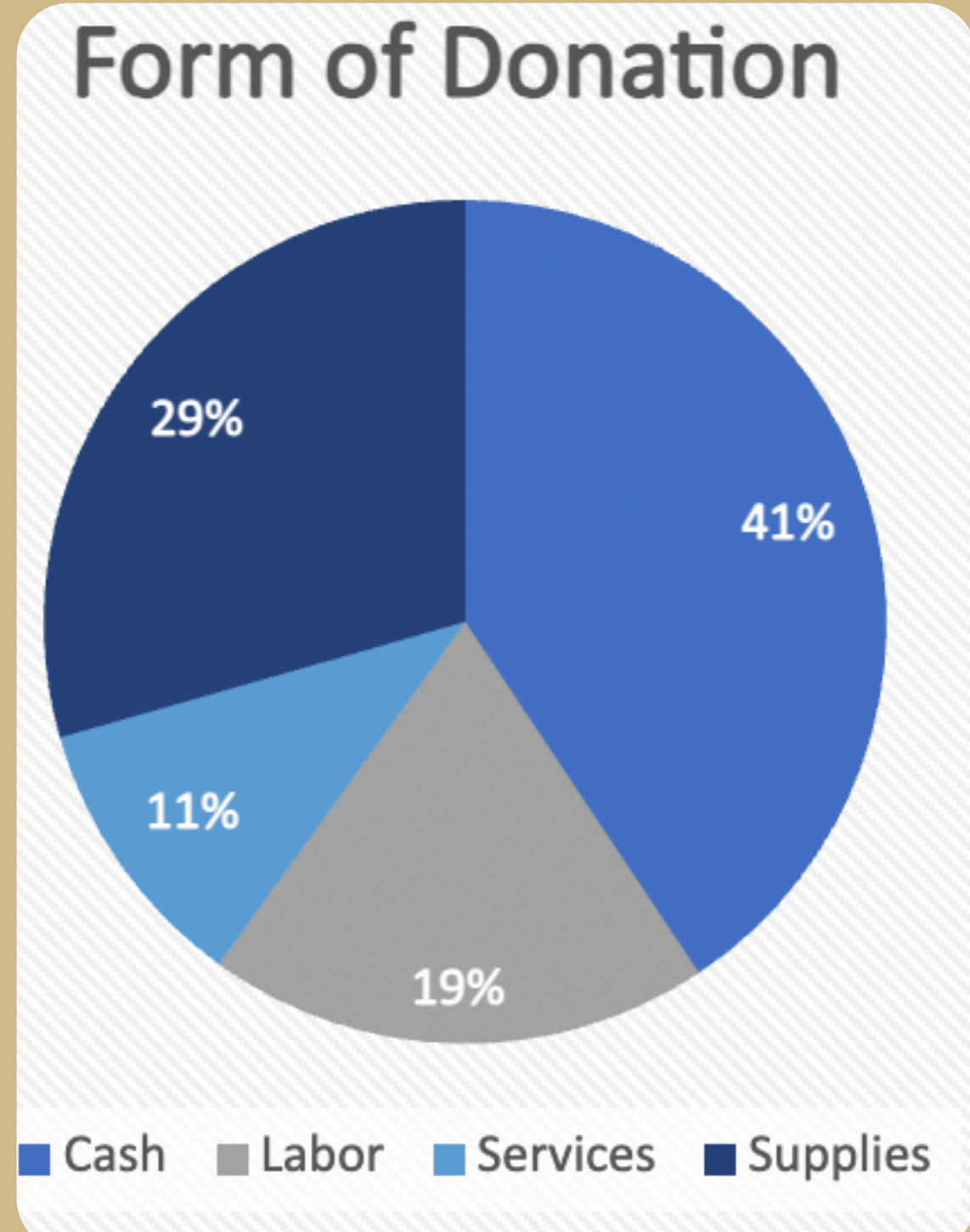
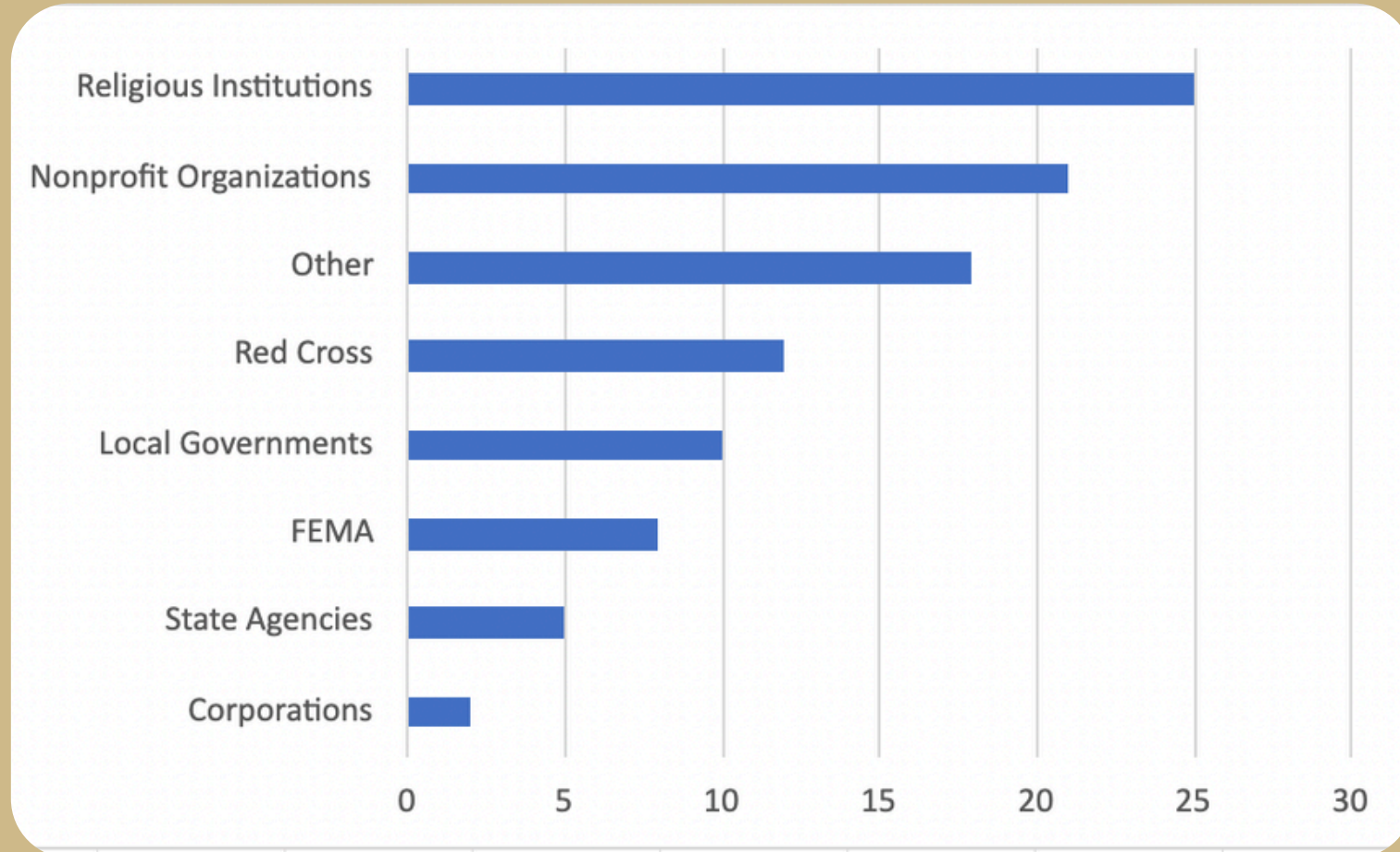
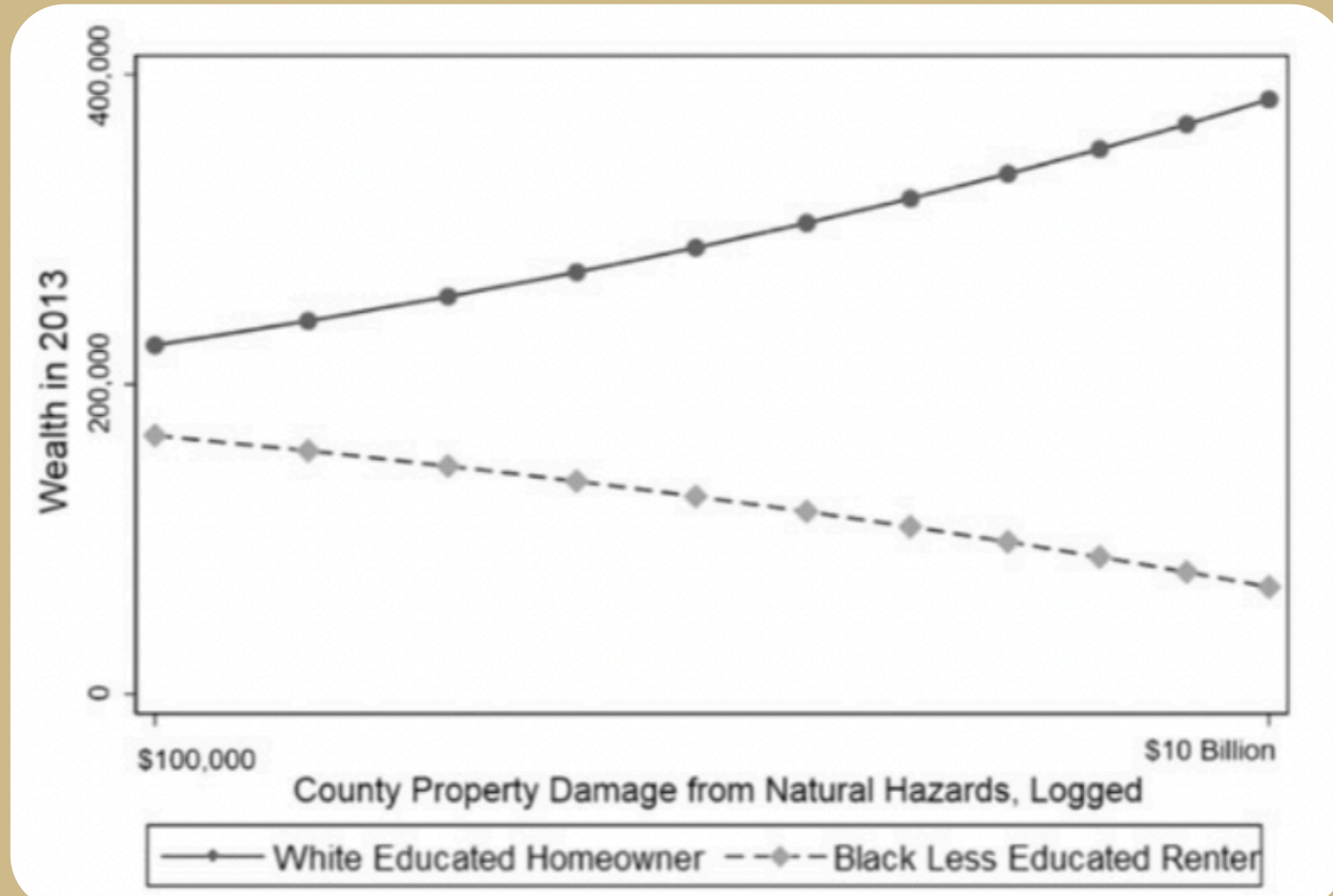
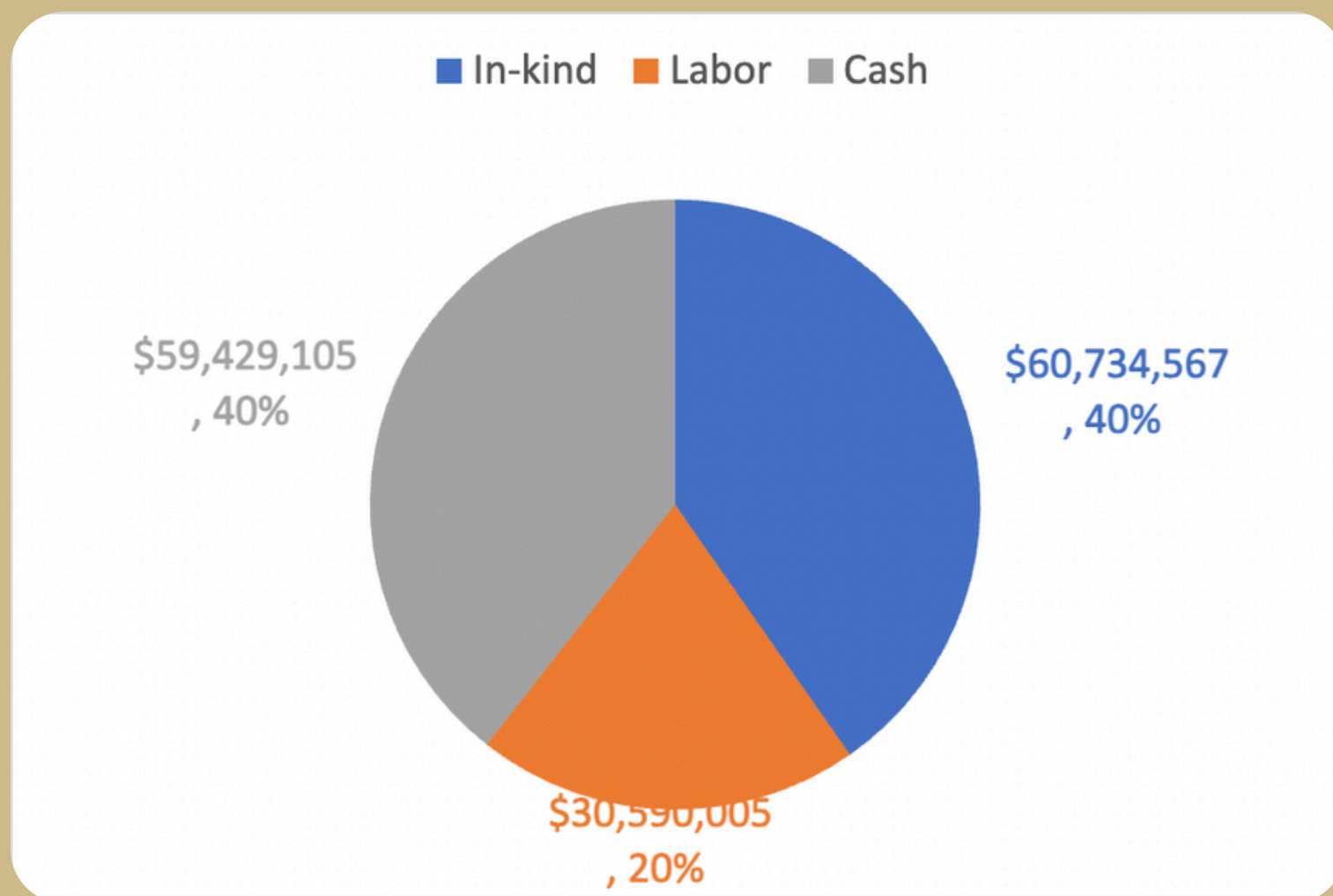
Introduction

After a hurricane or natural disaster, many different groups mobilize to respond across the nonprofit, for-profit, religious, and governmental sectors. It is important to understand how money, supplies, and other resources reach communities of different income levels, races, housing stability, and other socioeconomic factors, so they can recover and rebuild. This knowledge also helps improve planning and response for future disasters. In the current study, we use surveys to analyze different organizations' disaster aid efforts. A key topic in relation to this study is analyzing the abundance in different types of philanthropy versus the areas affected by disaster, primarily around the Big Bend of Florida. Using our approach, we coordinate these territories in the Big Bend area with the types and abundance of different philanthropies that are given when responding to disasters.

Methods

- This project uses an online Qualtrics survey to study how organizations provide disaster-related philanthropy.
- Questions related to this research include “approximate annual total expenses” and “which community organizations prioritizes for relief to”
- The focus is on organizations and looks at how much aid abundance, the type of aid, targeted communities, how they work with others, and why they choose to help.
- The current study is ongoing, but we aim to recruit 200 organizations
- Respondents include any form of organization – for-profit, governmental, nonprofit, or religious
- Recruited via targeted recruitment and snowball sampling through membership in networks of organizations.

Data



*Images 1, 3, and 4 are from the first wave of this study

Results

- This study is still in the preliminary stages of receiving results
- Material aid and direct services, such as supplies, rebuilding support, and volunteer labor, were the most commonly reported forms of aid after disasters
- Financial assistance and grant funding were reported, but less frequently than the latter.
- Organizations varied widely in size, including 5 with budgets >\$10M and 4 with budgets <\$100K.
- Geographic differences were observed, with local organizations showing more coordination, emergency services, and community-specific support. Regional or National Organizations more frequently contributed large-scale resources, funding, and volunteer mobilization

Discussion and Future Research

- Organizations are contacted through snowball sampling, not random sampling. It may be beneficial to find resources that provide the contact information of a large number of organizations, then randomly select organizations from those resources.
- Recruiting organizations can be difficult and time-consuming... future research may benefit from a more efficient sampling technique, which can gather more information at a greater rate

References

Berlan, D. (2018). Understanding Nonprofit Missions as Dynamic and Interpretative Conceptions

