

GuLF STUDY Newsletter

Issue 1

Enrollment Complete, Phase 2 Underway

October 2013

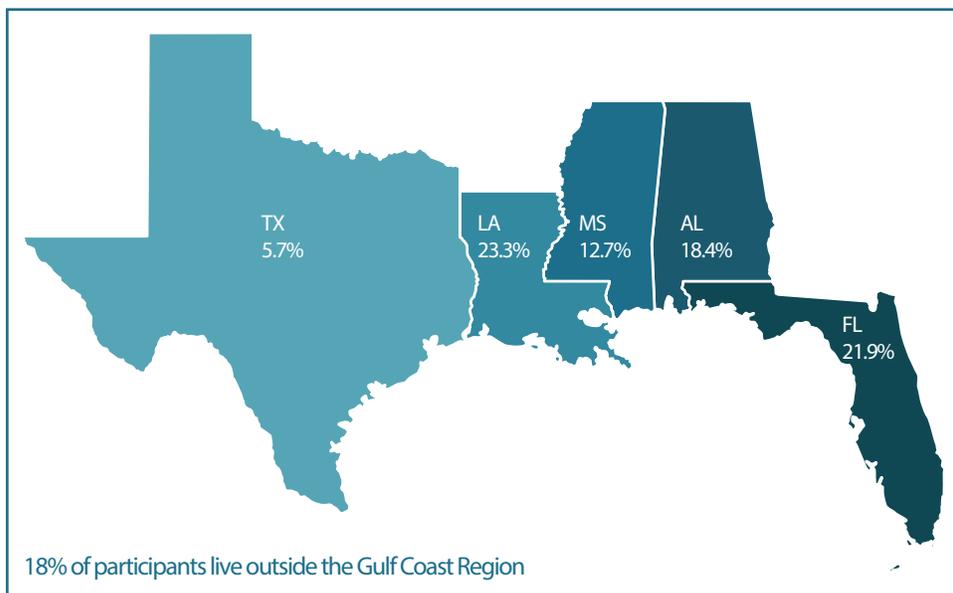


A Message from Study Director, Dr. Dale Sandler

"I am proud to announce that we have completed the enrollment phase of the GuLF STUDY, the largest and most comprehensive oil spill health study ever conducted! You are one of almost 33,000 people who joined the study. Thank you so much for taking time to share your story with us!

We look forward to sharing what we learn with you over time. In this newsletter, you will learn more about others who joined the study. You will also find out more about Phase 2 of the study, why it is so important, and how you can help. Please continue to stay involved in the study. Together, we can answer questions about the long-term health effects of the spill that matter to clean-up workers and affected communities."

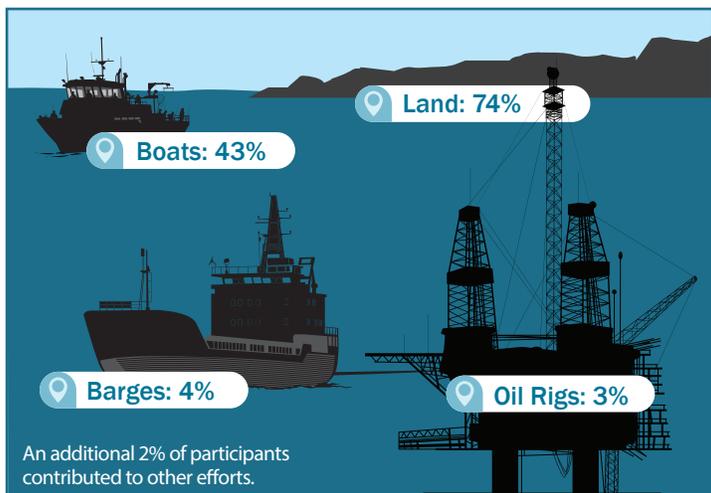
Where Study Participants Live



Who Joined the Study

Race	
White	60.3%
Black	22.4%
Asian	4.0%
Other	6.9%
Hispanic	6.4%
Gender	
Male	80.8%
Female	19.2%
Age (years)	
<30	19.3%
30-45	37.0%
>45	43.7%

Where Study Participants Worked



The percentages sum to greater than 100% because some people report working at multiple work sites.

Home Visits Now Complete

We completed the home visits this spring. Many thanks to the more than 11,200 participants who invited us into their homes to complete a brief medical exam and collect blood samples! As a show of our appreciation we held drawings for \$500 gift cards; there were 6 lucky winners.

Why One Winner Joined

"I am interested in the health and welfare of the population down here."

— Richard O'Neal
Gulfport, Mississippi



Phase 2 of the study is now underway. Please continue to participate. It is important that we hear from everyone.

Why should I participate in Phase 2?

The information you already provided will help researchers understand the short-term effects of the oil spill. By participating in the follow-up phase of the study you will help us learn if there are lasting effects of the oil spill on the health of workers.

What will I be asked to do for Phase 2?

You will be asked to complete a telephone interview about your current health and any changes since you last spoke with us. This interview will take about 30 minutes. The information you share may help to shape the ongoing response to this disaster, as well as the response to future oil spills. You may also be invited to visit a medical center in your area to take part in a detailed clinical exam.

When will study results be released?

Future newsletters will keep you informed about what we learn. We'll also post updates on the study website. Now that we have completed Phase 1 interviews and home visits we have the information we need to begin evaluating any short-term health effects of the spill. We hope to release early findings later in 2013. Remember we still need you to stay involved to learn if oil spills have any long-term health effects!

Our Dedicated and Friendly Staff are Ready for Your Call



Phil Robertson Supports your Participation in the Study



“I am very proud that so many people have joined the GuLF STUDY. Please stay involved so we can all get answers to important questions about our health—now and in the future.”

— Phil Robertson

What can I do to help?

- Contact the study hotline to complete your Phase 2 interview!
- Answer the phone when we call!
- Confirm or update your contact information so we can reach you for future study updates and activities!

Hotline: 1-855-NIH-GULF (1-855-644-4853)

Hours: Mon-Sat, 9 AM to 8 PM (CST)
Sun, Noon to 5 PM (CST)

Website: www.gulfstudy.nih.gov

Email: info@gulfstudy.nih.gov

 Find us on Facebook

We still need your help!

Contact us to complete your Phase 2 phone interview.

If you completed the enrollment interview, we need to hear from you. We need to hear from everyone - even those who were not exposed to the oil or who have no health concerns.

So, please answer the phone when we call or contact the study hotline now to complete your Phase 2 interview.



National Institute of
Environmental Health Sciences