

Indirect Costs of School Closures during the 2015 Flash Floods

This research investigates the rippling effects and economic costs associated with school closures caused by the recent floods. The study's focus is different from traditional economic disaster impact studies which either evaluate direct costs or assess indirect impacts by focusing on the business sector. This research deploys online household surveys in affected school districts of Columbia, SC and uses the Human Capital Method to estimate indirect costs of school closures. Conceptually, this work adds to literature on indirect costs of disasters and community resilience. In practice, the results will aid emergency managers in their decision-making on shelter sites and shelter duration.

Principal Investigator:

Melanie Gall, Geography

Collaborators:

- Tamara Sheldon, Darla Moore School of Business
- Larianne Collins, Geography