

**Appendix**  
**Hurricane Evacuation Decision Making and Risk Perception Survey**

We are part of a research team from the University of South Florida in Tampa who is working in collaboration with the Puerto Rico Hurricane Response Hub Technical Assistance Center, the USVI Department of Health, NOAA NWS San Juan, and the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA). We are conducting a survey of **Residents of Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands** about their possible evacuation decisions during the 2021 hurricane season. **Please limit to one survey response per individual and household.** This survey should take less than 10 minutes and your answers will be kept **completely confidential**. That means we will never reveal your personal identity but instead will report all information gathered in a group form. You are under **no obligation to participate** in the survey and **may stop answering questions at any time**. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact the study principal investigator (PI), Dr. [Jennifer Collins: collinsjm@usf.edu](mailto:collinsjm@usf.edu), Co-PI Dr. Janis Valmond (janis.valmond@doh.vi.gov) or Co-PI Dr. Leslie Maas: [Imaas@prsciencetrust.org](mailto:Imaas@prsciencetrust.org) for a response in Spanish.

- A. ARE YOU A RESIDENT of:
- Puerto Rico
  - US Virgin Islands
  - Other (IF other, skip to end of survey)
- B. [IF U.S. Virgin Islands] Are YOU 18+? (If YES, continue. If NO – state the survey is only for those over 18, thank you)
- C. [IF Puerto Rico] Are YOU 21+? (If YES, continue. If NO – state the survey is only for those over 21, thank you)

Would you like to continue with the survey?  
(If YES, continue. if NO, thank you.)

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1. What ZIP code do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Puerto Rico:** What municipality do you live in? / **U.S. Virgin Islands:** What island do you live on?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. During the 2021 hurricane season, in the case of a severe hurricane impacting your area with strong winds and/or flooding, do you see yourself (Check all that apply):
- Evacuating to a shelter
  - Evacuating to a hotel
  - Evacuating to friends/family's house
  - Staying at home

- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**The following set of questions are related to the current COVID-19 situation and how this would influence your evacuation plans if a hurricane evacuation warning is issued in 2021.**

4. Does your island have a mask mandate for (*Select all that apply*):
  - Indoor public places
  - Outdoors when social distancing isn't possible
  - Don't know
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. Do you consider yourself vulnerable to COVID-19 illness due to existing health risks?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
  - c) Don't Know
  
6. How serious would it be if you or someone in your household got COVID-19? Would you say it's very serious, somewhat serious, or not serious at all?
  - a. Very serious
  - b. Somewhat serious
  - c. Not serious at all
  
7. Do you personally know anyone who: Select all that apply.
  - Tested positive for COVID-19
  - Was hospitalized due to COVID-19
  - Was placed on a ventilator due to COVID-19
  - Died due to complications from COVID-19
  - I don't know anyone who has had COVID-19
  
8. Have you been vaccinated against COVID-19?
  - a. Yes, I have received both doses or I have had the single shot Johnson and Johnson vaccine.
  - b. Yes, I have received my first dose only of a two-dose vaccine (such as Moderna or Pfizer)
  - c. Yes, I have received my first dose of a two-dose series but am unable to receive my second dose due to medical reasons (e.g., severe allergic reaction, recent COVID-19 infection, etc.)
  - d. No, I haven't been able to receive a vaccine yet due to medical conditions preventing me from being vaccinated.
  - e. No, I haven't been able to receive a vaccine yet but want one and I am currently eligible to receive one (e.g., no appoint availability).
  - f. No, I haven't been able to receive a vaccine yet but want one. am currently not eligible to receive one.
  - g. No, I haven't been able to receive a vaccine yet but want one. do not know if I am eligible to receive one currently.
  - h. No, I haven't received the vaccine yet but am planning to once it has been out longer
  - i. No, I do not plan to get vaccinated

9. Would your vaccination status (being vaccinated partially, fully, or not at all at the time of a hurricane's impact) affect your hurricane evacuation decision?
- Yes
  - No

10. If yes, what would change with your evacuation choice if you were/were not vaccinated?

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11. Approximately what percent of your island do you think are fully vaccinated?  
[In Qualtrics – a slider bar can be used to let them choose a level]

12. If more people in your island were to get vaccinated, would you have a different hurricane evacuation plan?
- Yes
  - No
  - Don't know

13. Have you or someone in your household been diagnosed with any of the following health conditions?

- Autoimmune deficiency
- Asthma, COPD, or other lung related health condition
- Debilitating Heart Condition
- Dialysis performed at Dialysis Facility
- Dialysis performed at home
- Diabetes
- Dementia
- Electronically Dependent
- Hearing Impaired
- Ice/Cooling for Medications
- Mental Health
- Mobility Issues
- Respiratory/Oxygen Dependent
- Pregnant
- Vision Impaired

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

**The following set of questions are related to your potential evacuation decision during the 2021 hurricane season.**

14. Do you live in a zone that will be advised/required to evacuate during a hurricane?

- a) Yes, I live in a zone that is required to evacuate during a hurricane.
- b) Yes, I live in a zone that is advised to evacuate during a hurricane.
- c) No
- d) Don't know

15. Do you live in an area that has experienced floods during past hurricanes?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Don't know

16. Have you ever been ordered or advised by officials to evacuate during a hurricane or tropical storm in the past?

- a) Yes
- b) No

16A. [If yes] Did you evacuate for the last hurricane you were ordered/advised to evacuate for?

16B. In the future, if you were ORDERED to evacuate for a storm rather than just being advised by emergency managers, would you be more likely to evacuate rather than stay-at-home?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Don't know

17. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, has your trust in local authorities and institutions:

- a) Decreased
- b) Increased
- c) Stayed the same
- d) Don't know

18. [If a or b] Would this change influence your trust in local authorities for evacuation decisions you will make during a hurricane event in the upcoming 2021 hurricane season?

\_\_\_\_\_

19. What would make it easier for you to evacuate?

\_\_\_\_\_

20. What would make it difficult for you to evacuate?

\_\_\_\_\_

21. Do you own or rent your home?

- a) Homeowner
- b) Renter
- c) Homeless
- d) Other (Please define current living situation): \_\_\_\_\_

22. Are there any hazards associated with the location or structure of your home (e.g.,

near the coast/river/gut, located in a designated flood zone, near a hazardous substances dump site or industry, risk of landslides, isolation)?

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23. Do you have a pet, and if so does it impact your decision to evacuate for hurricanes?
- a) I have a pet and it DOES affect my evacuation decisions.
  - b) I have a pet and it DOES NOT affect my evacuation decisions.
  - c) No, I do not have a pet.
24. Would you evacuate the island if you thought the hurricane threat was severe?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Don't know
25. In your present situation, do you think that you could evacuate if a hurricane were to impact your area?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Maybe
  - d. Don't know
- 25A. [If yes is not chosen] Why do you think you could not evacuate if a hurricane were to impact your area?
26. Do you own a generator?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
27. [If yes] Does owning a generator influence your evacuation choice?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
28. [If no] Does not owning a generator influence your evacuation choice?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
29. How difficult would it be for you and members of your household to leave your home if you needed to evacuate?
- a) Very difficult
  - b) Somewhat difficult
  - c) Not difficult at all
30. How likely is it that you and members of your household will evacuate for the next hurricane that is expected to have a major impact on your area?
- a) Very likely
  - b) Somewhat likely
  - c) Not at all likely

31. If you had to leave your home and go to a safer place during an evacuation advisory, which means of transportation are you most likely to depend on?

- a) Personal vehicle
- b) Public transportation
- c) Carpool
- d) Plane
- e) Boat
- f) Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- g) Don't know

32. Prior to COVID-19, if I needed to evacuate to a disaster shelter during hurricane season, I would most likely have done so.

\_\_\_\_\_ definitely true \_\_\_\_\_ probably true \_\_\_\_\_ probably false \_\_\_\_\_ definitely false

33. Considering the current situation with COVID-19, I would still go to a shelter if I needed to during a hurricane evacuation advisory in 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_ definitely true \_\_\_\_\_ probably true \_\_\_\_\_ probably false \_\_\_\_\_ definitely false

34. I think the risks of being in a disaster shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic would be worse than staying at home and enduring the risks of a hurricane (e.g., storm surge, strong winds, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ definitely true \_\_\_\_\_ probably true \_\_\_\_\_ probably false \_\_\_\_\_ definitely false

35. I think if I went to a disaster shelter during a hurricane, the authorities will have adequate safeguards in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the facility, such as being able to social distance at least 6 ft. in place.

\_\_\_\_\_ definitely true \_\_\_\_\_ probably true \_\_\_\_\_ probably false \_\_\_\_\_ definitely false

36. **[If U.S. Virgin Islands]** According to your medical, mobility, or functional needs, do you feel it is more suitable for you to shelter in a medical special needs shelter than in a general evacuation shelter?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Don't know

37. **[If U.S. Virgin Islands]** Have you or someone in your household ever been asked or enrolled by emergency management authorities for a priority list of persons to be evacuated to a medical special needs shelter facility during an emergency or disaster?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Don't know

**These last couple of questions will help us gather some demographic information for the study. Again, please remember that this information will remain confidential and will not be linked back to you.**

38. Do you identify as:

- a) Man
- b) Woman
- c) Non-Binary
- d) Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Do not wish to disclose

39. How many members are there in your household? (dropdown list from 1-10 or more)

40. [If 35 = 1, skip this question] How many members of your household are 17 years of age or younger?

41. How many members of your household are 65 and older?

42-43.

|  |                              |                             |  |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Does anyone in your household have a disability? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |  |
| Is English your second language?                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |  |

44-50.

|                               |   |  |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Race and Ethnicity            | <input type="checkbox"/> White<br><input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latinx<br><input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native  | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian<br><input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer  |
| Education (highest completed) | <input type="checkbox"/> <Did not graduate high school  | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Grad/GED  | <input type="checkbox"/> Some College   | <input type="checkbox"/> College degree  |
| If College Degree is chosen:  | Please tell us your highest completed college degree field (e.g., physics, arts) and level (e.g., BS, Masters, PhD, etc.)   |  |   |  |
| Annual Household Income       | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$20k<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$20k - \$29,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$30k - \$39,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$40k - \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50k-\$59,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$60k-\$69,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$70k - \$79,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$80k - \$89,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$90k- \$99,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$100k-\$109,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$110k - 119,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$120k - 129,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$130 - \$139,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$140k - 149,999<br><input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$150k<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |

|  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| What is your employment status?                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Employed full-time  | <input type="checkbox"/> Employed part-time   | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporarily unemployed due to COVID 19.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permanently unemployed due to COVID 19<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed before COVID 19<br><input type="checkbox"/> Retired | <input type="checkbox"/> Student<br><input type="checkbox"/> Disabled<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer  |
| Where on the political spectrum do you see yourself? | <input type="checkbox"/> Very conservative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Conservative  | <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate   | <input type="checkbox"/> Liberal<br><input type="checkbox"/> Very liberal  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer   |
| What is your religious affiliation?                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Protestant Christian (e.g., Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, etc.)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mormon | <input type="checkbox"/> Orthodox (such as Greek or Russian)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Jewish | <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim<br><input type="checkbox"/> Buddhist<br><input type="checkbox"/> Hindu<br><input type="checkbox"/> Atheist   | <input type="checkbox"/> Agnostic<br><input type="checkbox"/> Something else<br><input type="checkbox"/> Nothing in particular<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |

51. What year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

52. Do you have any additional comments?

***Thank you for your time!***