



## 4 Experts Available for Timely Analysis on Hurricane Fiona

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Puerto Rico is once again reeling from power outages and floods, this time caused by Hurricane Fiona.

For reporters looking for an expert to comment on the impacts of this natural disaster on affected communities, the following researchers are available to provide commentary and analysis.

### **ELIZABETH M. ARANDA**

University of South Florida-Tampa



Aranda studies migrant populations. Her recent research has focused on the emotional well-being of undocumented immigrant young adults and how Puerto Rican migrants who left Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria have integrated into Central Florida's society. She published [an op-ed](#) on the 5th anniversary of Hurricane Maria.

### **CASSANDRA R. DAVIS**

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Davis has researched environmental disruptions, specifically the impact of natural hazards on low-income schooling communities of color. Dr. Davis' goal is to support community leaders, educators, and policymakers to improve responses, preparedness, and recovery in areas with the highest need. Her most recent project focused on gathering insight from community members and government officials on the best strategies to distribute equitable support to marginalized communities and build trust between groups.

### **ELIZABETH FUSSELL**

Brown University



Fussell is a sociologist and demographer. She studies the effects of hurricanes and other natural hazards on population mobility and social inequalities in the effects of disasters. She is currently studying the long-term effects of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans' population and the effects of environmental and economic shocks in Puerto Rico on population health, well-being and migration.

Quote: "Since 2017, Puerto Rico has suffered from Hurricanes Irma, Maria, and now Fiona, in addition to earthquakes and the Covid pandemic. Recovery from these so-called natural disasters occurred against the backdrop of the economic disaster that began in 2006 when federal subsidies incentivizing manufacturers ended, causing unemployment to skyrocket, government debt to accumulate, and Puerto Ricans to adapt to deteriorating living conditions."

## **FERNANDO TORMOS-APONTE**

University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus



Tormos-Aponte specializes in social movements, environmental and racial justice, intersectional solidarity, identity politics, social policy, and transnational politics. He investigates civil society claims about the uneven government response across communities. His work in this area examines the causes and consequences of government neglect of socially vulnerable communities during disaster recoveries.

Quote: "Climate change is increasing the magnitude and frequency of disasters. We must pay attention to the drivers and consequences of social vulnerability to disasters."