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|  |  **Puerto Rico/US Virgin Islands** **Eviction Prevention Toolkit** |  |



**As the eviction moratorium comes to an end, thousands of Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands renters are finding themselves at risk of losing their home due to:**

 Inability to pay arrears rental payments

 Increased rental rates

**Resources to assist in the event of eviction:**

[**Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)**](https://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/mortgage-and-housing-assistance/renter-protections/find-help-with-rent-and-utilities/)

Allows renters and landlords to find rental assistance programs in their area.

Find affordable housing opportunities for residents. Click on the link to find out more about available resources for renters:

* **Puerto Rico**: [**Administración de Vivienda Pública (pr.gov)**](https://www.avp.pr.gov/)
* **USVI**: [**Virgin Islands Housing Authority (vihousing.org)**](https://vihousing.org/)

**Emergency Rental Assistance programs:** federally funded emergency rental assistance relief program to support residents and businesses as they continue to recover and rebuild.

* **Puerto Rico**: [**Portal de Asistencia de Rentas (covidrenta.org)**](https://covidrenta.org/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2F)
* **USVI**: [**VI Emergency Rental Assistance Program (vihfa.gov)**](https://erap.vihfa.gov/)

**Fair Housing**

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of seven protected classes. If you feel

that you have been evicted on the basis of your: Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex (including

gender identity and sexual orientation), Familial Status, Disability, then we encourage you to file a fair

housing complaint.

You can file a complaint with FHEO online in[**English**](https://portalapps.hud.gov/FHEO903/Form903/Form903Start.action) or[**Spanish**](https://portalapps.hud.gov/AdaptivePages/HUD_Spanish/Espanol/complaint/complaint-details.htm).

You can speak with an FHEO intake specialist by calling 1-800-669-9777 or 1-800-877-8339.

**Did you know that HUD has affordable housing resources throughout the state of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands?**

* [**Rental Help: Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands**](https://www.hud.gov/states/puerto_rico_virgin_islands/renting)

**Subsidized Apartments**

HUD helps apartment owners offer reduced rents to low-income tenants. To apply, contact or visit the management office of each apartment building that interests you.

* Search for a subsidized apartment by clicking this link: [**HUD Resource Locator**](https://www.hud.gov/resources)

**Public Housing and Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8)**

To apply for either type of help, visit your local Public Housing Agency (PHA).

* **Public Housing Authorities:**
* **Puerto Rico:** [**PHA Contact Report PR**](https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PHA_Contact_Report_PR.pdf)
* **U.S. Virgin Islands:** [**PHA Contact Report USVI**](https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PHA_Contact_Report_VI.pdf)
	+ Some PHAs have long waiting lists, so you may want to apply at more than one PHA. Your PHA can also give you a list of locations at which your voucher can be used.

**Need Help Locating Housing and Other Resources?**

* <https://www.hud.gov/i_want_to/talk_to_a_housing_counselor>[Contact a housing counseling agency](https://hudgov-answers.force.com/housingcounseling/s/)
* [**HUD Resource Locator**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CH02659%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CMQHXHCW7%5Cresources.hud.gov) - search for HUD offices, public housing agencies, multifamily and public housing locations, and homeless coordinated entry system points of contacts.

**Other Resources**

Find units for rent in rural areas - [**Puerto Rico**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CH02659%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CMQHXHCW7%5CMFH%20Rentals%20%28USDA%20RD%29%20County%20Selections)**,** [**USVI**](https://rdmfhrentals.sc.egov.usda.gov/RDMFHRentals/select_county.jsp?st=vi&state_name=Virgin%20Islands&st_cd=78)

Help with your utility bills - [**Puerto Rico**](https://servicios.adsef.pr.gov/views/programa/programaSubsidioEnergia.aspx)**,** [**USVI**](http://www.dhs.gov.vi/financial_programs/general_assistance.html)

**[Housing resources for seniors](https://www.hud.gov/topics/information_for_senior_citizens)**

[**Information for Disabilities**](https://www.hud.gov/topics/information_for_disabled_persons)

State Housing Programs - [**Puerto Rico**](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.vivienda.pr.gov%2Fdocs%2Fpresentacion%2520de%2520programas%2520al%2520secretario.pptx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)**,** [**USVI**](https://vihousing.org/home/faqs/)

**[Local tenant rights, laws, and protections](https://www.hud.gov/groups/tenants)**

Support Services - [**Puerto Rico**](https://unitedwaypr.org/) **,** [**USVI**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CH02659%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CMQHXHCW7%5Cunitedwayusvi.org)

Continuums of Care - [**Puerto Rico**](https://www.hudexchange.info/housing-and-homeless-assistance/homeless-help/?csrf_token=E3EEBF9F-FD00-4D16-A3469AF0EA00C474&params=%7B%22limit%22%3A20%2C%22newSearch%22%3Atrue%2C%22homelessPOCsOnly%22%3Atrue%2C%22state%22%3A%22PR%22%7D) **,** [**USVI**](https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/vi-500/)