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**Subject:** Trump gives his team a '10' for its Puerto Rico hurricane response

By Nolan D. McCaskill

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President Donald Trump today gave the federal government the highest marks for its response to the hurricane devastation in Puerto Rico.

"I'd say it was a 10," the president, who sat beside Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló, told reporters today. "I'd say it was probably the most difficult when you talk about relief, when you talk about search, when you talk about all of the different levels, and even when you talk about lives saved. You look at the number. I mean, this was — I think it was worse than Katrina."

The pair of hurricanes that tore through Puerto Rico, the president continued, "was in many ways worse than anything people have ever seen."

"They got hit by a Category 4. Grazed. But grazed about, you know, a big portion of the island," Trump said. "But it was grazed. The rest of it hit Florida, as you know. But that was bad. But then they got hit dead center — if you look at those maps, by a Category 5. Nobody's ever heard of a [Category] 5 hitting land. Usually by that time it's dissipated. It hit right through — and kept to a [Category] 5. It hit right through the middle of the island, right through the middle of Puerto Rico. There's never been anything like that. I give ourselves a 10."

Trump has been heavily criticized by some for his muted initial response to the damage to the U.S. territory, and has publicly feuded with certain local officials about whether he was giving Puerto Rico less attention than Texas and Florida, which also got hit hard by hurricanes in recent weeks.

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