

Post-COVID Economic Crises Review: The Bahamian Tourism Industry's Perspective

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ABSTRACT

The global impact on economies, societies, and vocation post disasters has been exponential. The researchers examined the findings from a doctoral study on economic challenges and resilience in the Bahamian Tourism and hospitality Industry post-COVID-19 pandemic. The study employed a qualitative phenomenological methodology to assess why Abaco, Grand Bahama, and New Providence in The Bahamas experience post-economic adversities, particularly following the epidemic. The study's conceptual framework drew on resilience and crisis management theories, employed semi-structured interviews and open-ended questions, in accordance with the requisite interview protocol. The problem addressed the Bahamian hospitality sector's recovery and subsequent strategies, using the following research questions: RQ1. What post-crisis economic challenges/hardships have the Bahamian tourism industry entrepreneurs faced for the past two decades? RQ2. What are the Bahamian tourism industry entrepreneurs' post-crisis coping strategies? RQ3. How do the Bahamian tourism industry post-crisis coping strategies impact their economic recovery? From the findings, the researchers identified that the Bahamian Tourism and hospitality Industry endured significant economic hardships due to consecutive hurricanes and the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, the researchers briefly evaluated the study and proposed additional proactive, resilient strategies to mitigate against the industry's future post-crisis occurrences.

1. General Background

The Bahamas is an archipelago comprising 700 islands and cays, whose inhabitants mainly use the Bahamian dialect in everyday speech (Laube, 2025). Tourism accounts for 50% of the country's GDP and is the country's main industry (Rolle, 2024). Financial services are the second largest contributor to the economy, followed by manufacturing and other retail industries. The principal industries, tourism (inclusive of entrepreneurship and hospitality) and financial services, are crucial sources of income, employment and foreign exchange (Solomon,

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2025). On the one hand, research proposes that calamitous interruptions in biodiversity, topography, infrastructure and socio-economy are devastating, with great reliance on such a fragile industry as tourism (Ramaano, 2026; Rolle, 2024). On the other hand, Ramaano (2026) and Rolle (2024) stressed the importance of and need for economic diversification. Countries whose main industry is tourism and hospitality are susceptible to significant negative repercussions and decline based on recurring catastrophes. Empirical evidence demonstrates that countries whose economies are highly dependent on tourism, such as the Bahamas, are better positioned to recover from disasters when they adopt comprehensive preemptive planning and flexible, adaptive strategies that enhance resilience and expedite post-disaster recuperation (Anjomshoa et al., 2025).

1.1. Introduction

Countries across the region and the world have endured rampant economic implications related to catastrophes and pandemic such as COVID-19 (Ghosh et al., 2025). Between 2003 and 2016, research reported 36 million seasonal influenza symptoms, 140,000-710,000 victims, and 12,000-56,000 mortalities caused by natural and man-made diseases in numerous regions of the world (Biggerstaff et al., 2018). By 2019, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) corroborated that the fiscal impact of calamities, particularly COVID-19, was the worst since the Great Depression. Political wars spanning World War I (1914-18) to World War II (1939-45), coupled with the Great Depression and the Regression of the 1920s-1960s, created a global economic, environmental, political, health, and financial crisis in the 2000s, as demonstrated in Figure 1 below (Aikman et al., 2023; Berns et al., 2024).

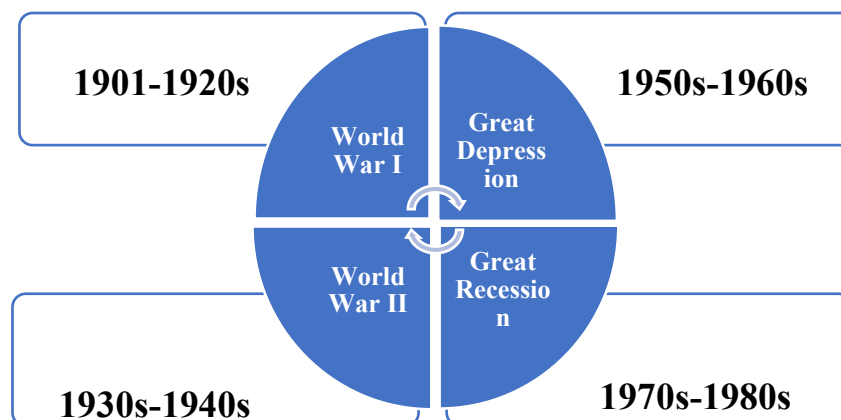


Figure 1. Turmoil and Economic Crises

Note. Centuries of Turmoil and Crises 1900s – 1980s. Figure created by the authors.

The study revealed the catastrophes endured by the tourism and hospitality industry while highlighting potential strategies to prevent prolonged economic suffering. Researchers have described the devastating economic effects of COVID-19 as a *glocal* phenomenon, reflecting its simultaneous local and global impacts (Balduzzi et al., 2024). Additionally, about 1.5 million individuals were impacted by 2,811 natural disasters, of whom approximately 440,000 died. The infrastructural, environmental, and economic consequences of such events are substantial and far-reaching (Huangfu et al., 2024; Qiu et al., 2024). Low- and middle-income countries have been particularly vulnerable, experiencing severe health and economic consequences (Ashraf et al., 2025; Fernandez-Prada et al., 2025). Given the Bahamas' heavy dependence on the tourism and hospitality sector for economic stability, the concept of global disaster resilience is especially relevant. Researchers have further argued that post-COVID-19 recovery challenges have weakened resilience worldwide, including within the Bahamian

tourism industry (Atkeson, 2020; Hamilton, 2021). For the purposes of this review, the terms “study” and “research” refer to the doctoral study under review, while “researchers” refers to the scholars conducting the review of that doctoral study.

2. Literature Review

2.1. The Conceptual Framework

The study examined the factors contributing to the prolonged economic challenges experienced by Bahamian islands such as Abaco, Grand Bahama, and New Providence following major crises. It further investigated how effective risk management practices and resilience-oriented sustainability strategies could mitigate these challenges and support a more efficient recovery process (Johnson, 2021). To provide a theoretical foundation for this investigation, the study employed Resiliency Theory and the Crisis Management Concept. Resilience refers to the capacity of individuals, communities, and systems to withstand, adapt to, and recover from emergencies and catastrophic events across social, ecological, psychological, and environmental dimensions (Weise et al., 2020).

Complementing this perspective, crisis management encompasses the effective handling of emergencies through coordinated planning, response mechanisms, resource allocation, and the resolution of infrastructural challenges (Atkeson, 2020). Together, these frameworks offer valuable insights into strengthening recovery efforts and promoting sustainable development in crisis-prone tourism-dependent economies such as The Bahamas. In addition to the semi-structured questions, the exploration of data from ERIC, ProQuest, Web of Science, Science direct databases, Web of Knowledge, Sage Journals, library sources, among other electronic resources to establish trustworthiness was crucial.

2.1.2 Resiliency Theories

Resilience can be understood as the ability to find peace, hope, and acceptance in difficult circumstances (Lu et al., 2020). Adversity can also create opportunities, enabling people to endure and adapt during hardship (Lu et al., 2020; Murry, 2019). Research shows that many disaster survivors recover quickly, supporting the view that hope is central to resilience (Sachdev et al., 2020). The researchers argue that resilience involves more than returning to a pre-disaster state; it also includes building reliable relationships that strengthen response and recovery efforts (Hernantes et al., 2019; Pollock et al., 2019). After COVID-19, for example, people formed connections in different ways, and these bonds provided comfort as they rebuilt their lives and businesses (Pollock et al., 2019, p. 5312). Table 1 presents examples of the trust and relationships needed for effective crisis response.

Table 1. Emergency Crisis Management Trust and Sound Relationships

Lack of	Effects of
A disaster preparation messaging to staff community members and organizations and FBOs.	Disasters with their agency (e.g. loss of office space, displacement).
Lack of ability to train local trusted community members and leaders (as opposed to outsiders).	Civil maintenance systems (e.g. zoning, permitting, building codes) on crisis prone individuals and communities. Cost of hurricane-proofing homes.
Knowledge of services available in [disasters] scenarios (e.g. Mental, Social services, partnerships, resources for people who are incarcerated or differently abled).	Disappearing infrastructure and economic opportunity in low-lying areas.

Note. Adapted from CBO's Interviews – Integrated systems for rapid disaster response, Pollock et al., (2019)

2.1.3 Crisis Management

Mikušová et al. (2019) describe crises management as confronting potentially disruptive harmful and unexpected situations. Researchers have created diverse crisis management levels to include avoiding, reacting, planning and recovering from catastrophes (Mikušová et al., 2017). Having an awareness of how to manage crisis is critical (Jamal et al., 2017). On the contrary, becoming overwhelmed by extremely unanticipated situations can be devastating. For example, COVID-19 produced an unprecedented global shock wave in the tourism sector (Amri et al., 2026) from which some people had barely recovered at the time of the study.

The reviewed literature suggests that addressing emergencies successfully requires both effective contingency planning and well-coordinated post-disaster response and recovery strategies.

The researchers' assessment of the doctoral study revealed the interrelation of global warming's immense effects and other challenges propelled economic fatality and infrastructural devastations within the theoretical context below:

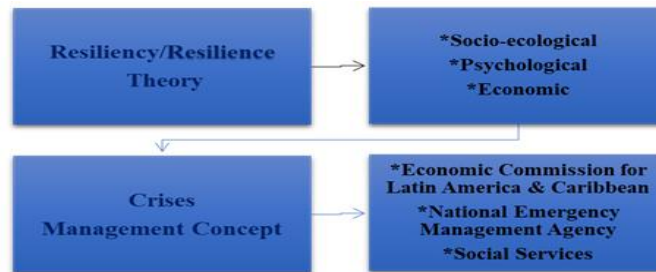


Figure 2. Theoretical Framework

Note. Hamilton (2021). Conceptual Model: Resilience Theory and Crisis Management Concept.

Dissertations & Theses, 2021. 28547474. (p. 5).

Local Effects

As established, The Bahamas was bombarded with consecutive category three to five hurricanes in recent decades (Atkeson, 2020), coupled with global climate change, socio-ecological, social climbing and population ecosystems (IMF, 2019). The study explored the underlying factors contributing to post economic adversities across the Bahamian islands of Abaco, Grand Bahama, and New Providence and assessed the extent to which robust risk management practices and resilience sustainability measures can mitigate prolonged recovery challenges (Atkeson, 2020).

2.2. Gaps in Literature

Although research has confirmed the need for sustainable development, accountable disaster risk management, and proactive disaster prevention (Vu et al., 2025), there remains an urgent need for practical and resilient strategies to address the economic repercussions caused by epidemics on global tourism and hospitality sectors (Filep et al., 2024; Li et al., 2024). The gaps identified in doctoral study in question and the broader literature suggest several areas for future research, including proactive disaster management strategies, sustainability assessments, economic diversification, and enhanced risk management approaches (Guo et al., 2025; O'Connor et al., 2025). The researchers observed that while numerous studies acknowledged the importance of effective risk and resilience-building management, recent research continues to report significant deficiencies in these areas (Nafiu et al., 2025). For example, contemporary studies have highlighted concerns regarding the increasing frequency and severity of natural

disasters and their implications for the economic growth and development of vulnerable nations such as The Bahamas (Cunha et al., 2025).

The 20 participants addressed the local ecological and climatic implications of the straw vending, Airbnb, transportation and hotelier sectors of the Bahamian tourism industry (Mboga et al., 2025). The researchers concurred that the archipelagic situation in the Bahamas rendered the need for appropriate data collection (Moser et al., 2018) telephone and face-to-face interviews (Oltmann, 2016), followed the requisite interview steps to gather information. After which, the study used pseudonyms to represent the verbatim responses of the interviewees before manual transcription (Saldaña, 2016). The researchers employed member checking (Gray et al., 2020) to obtain credibility, transferability and dependability (Creswell et al., 2018). Subsequently, code mapping and analysis followed, using NVivo12 and descriptive coding (Korstjens et al., 2018; Saldaña, 2016). With the maximization of 20 participants, the researchers enforced the importance of triangulation (Creswell et al., 2018) of data. Having utilized OpenAI to assist with tabling additional subthemes generated manually, and conducted further analysis (Weinklye, 2018), the researchers created the following Table:

Table 2. Thematic Analysis

THEMES	Subthemes	Code Representative
Consecutive Disasters	Hurricane Dorian destruction	Hurricane damage
	COVID-19 disruptions	Dislodgment
	Intensified economic losses	Pandemic impressions
	Long-term recovery trials	Job losses
	Future crises Resilience	Recovery delays
	Multiple hurricanes	Future preparedness
Tourism Resilience relative to Economic Recovery	Tourism industry susceptibility	Tourism decline
	Entrepreneurial endurance and flexibility	Economic hardship and revival
	Business continuity after disasters	Business recovery
	Economic divergence	Entrepreneurial resilience
	Tourism recovery approaches	Visitor confidence
Crisis Resilience: Risk Management and Adequate Preparedness	Disaster planning and readiness	Preparedness
	Risk assessment and mitigation	Risk management
	Emergency training and education	Emergency planning
	Early warning and communication systems	Training
	Business continuity strategies	Early warning systems
	Disaster planning and readiness	Contingency planning
Resilience- the Backbone for Disaster Recovery	Individual resilience and adaptation	Bouncing back via community effort
	Community resilience and collective recovery	Adaptation
	Organizational continuity and resilience	Recovery
	Recovery beyond returning to normal	Endurance
	Adversity Insights	Post-disaster growth

Note. Themes, Sub-themes and Code Representation created by the Researchers (Akbar et al., 2025).

The table reinforces the themes of resilience, multiple disasters and crisis management, interconnects the industry's ability to bounce back and or avert undue stress post calamities. This corroborates interview questions which were embedded in the research questions of the kinds of challenges faced, the economic impact on the tourism industry and recovery coping strategies. For instance, the study revealed that the taxi sector verbalized strong views about the psychological effects following catastrophes. Participants 1, 5 and 7 expressed their views as follows:

P1: *"There is a tremendous psychological effect on, on the individual; particularly, the small businessman. And I, I was, thinking in terms of particularly like the taxi drivers, straw vendors, etc.; these persons that who normally, only have enough money in, in their possession to last them, maybe a minimum of about over a month or two, so, therefore, there is a depression..."* (Hamilton, 2021, p. 89).

P5: *"The impact is extreme. And you feel that because these people were a part of your life every day for years..."* (Hamilton, 2021, p. 89).

P7: *"Um, psychologically, it's nerve-wrecking, um, because you, you, you would find in that you know, the industry was pretty much in a comfortable and stable position. And so, it, it would pose a lot of stress and a lot of strain on individual entrepreneurs who have responsibility business-wise and family-wise and not being able to meet your financial obligation, um, really could, could, ah, could send persons on the edge;..."* (Hamilton, 2021, p. 89).

The researchers noted that the feedback addressed RQ1 about the post-crises economic challenges in the Bahamian tourism industry for the past decades? The literature revealed that self-efficacy, hopefulness, and flexibility which compose psychological capital (PsyCap) are crucial to post-calamity economic recuperation (Luthans et al., 2006). Similarly, Airbnb operators' responses to Research Question 1 (RQ1) corroborated the findings by highlighting the hardships experienced during recent devastating hurricanes and the COVID-19 pandemic. The literature similarly documented the global impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), including fatalities, unprecedented disruptions to daily life, and severe economic downturns (Lamquin, 2020). Consequently, these events have had significant fiscal impacts, and losses across countries worldwide (Hadwin et al., 2020).

3. Methodology

3.1. Research Aims

The study investigated how the challenges faced by the Bahamian tourism and hospitality industry following the COVID-19 pandemic affected economic performance and how resilience mechanisms contributed to recovery. The qualitative phenomenological study design (Lundh, 2020) chose the Tourism and Hospitality sectors from the aforementioned islands of The Bahamas. From that population and based on the sample size (Dworkin, 2012), the study employed a purposive sampling (Guest et al., 2020; Tajik, 2026) of 20 participants from the industry's directories. Although the researchers concurred with the sampling, based on the expertise in the chosen industries, they (researchers) maintain that a Sampling of Convenience (Gillet et al., 2025) would better describe the sampling method employed the given ecological location - the Bahamian archipelago. The sampling comprised 5 Airbnb, 5 taxi operators, 5 hoteliers and 5 straw market vendors. Upon IRB's (Streefkerk, 2019), approval for data collection (Moser et al., 2018) the researchers disbursed Informed Consent (Galvin et al., 2020) emails.

3.2. Data Collection

The researchers discovered that the study adhered to proper institutional reviews board (IRB) procedures and confidentiality (Ferdowsian, 2020), using pseudonyms, which protected participants' confidentiality.

The emerging themes (Creswell et al., 2018) also undergird the general question of why Bahamian islands such as Abaco, Grand Bahama and New Providence experience prolonged economic distress after crises.

The gravity of consecutive hurricanes compounded the onslaught of the pandemic and the ripple economic effects on Bahamians generally and the respondents in particular. Consequently, the researchers contend that it is important to create sustainable resilience in the Bahamian Tourism sector: socio-ecological variation, contingency planning, and effective leadership amongst stakeholders' crisis management strategies to include depression, anxiety and emotional detachment. Figure 3 illustrates the thematic structure that intertwines the psychological impact of stress post traumatic periods from the study's emerging themes.

The researchers concluded that the research questions link the interview questions, integrates the researchers' purpose and interlock the literature reviewed. The participants stressed how disasters led to loss of jobs in the tourism sector; loss of jobs lead to financial, psychological, emotional and social implications. The rippling effect renders less tourists, less foreign trade and income; less spending and consumption, which further produce familial distresses.

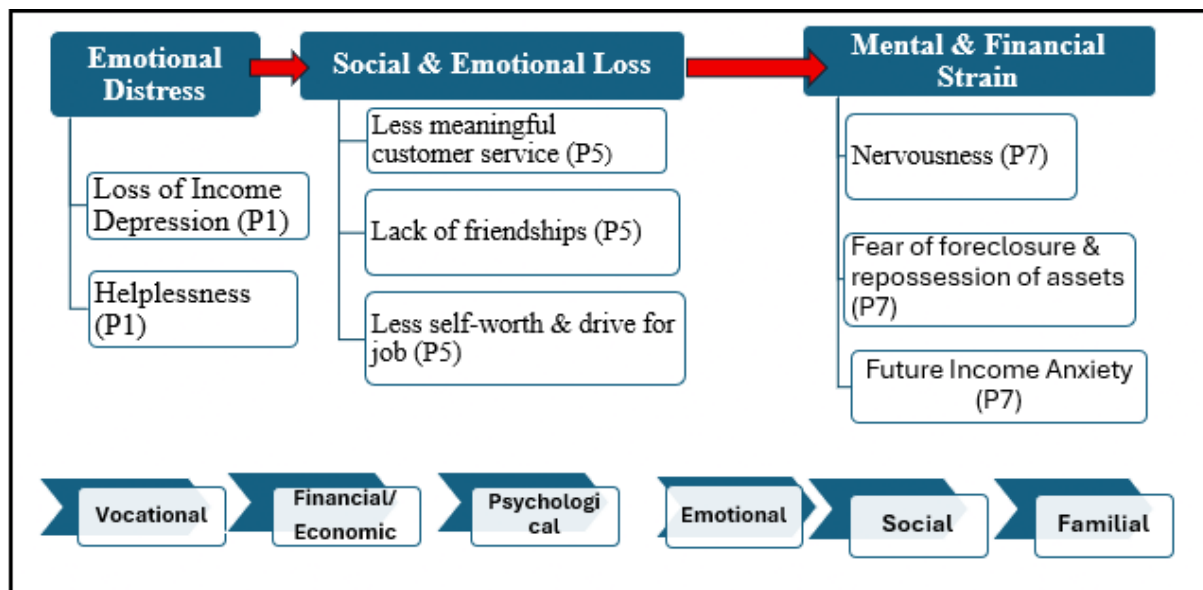


Figure 3. Thematic Structure: Psychological Consequences of Economic Hardships Caused by Disasters

Note. Interconnection of Vocational, Financial, Psychological, Emotional and Social Stressors.
Created by the Researchers.

4. Results and Findings

The findings corroborated the literature review, which highlighted the implications for proactive and innovative strategies, resilient approach and risk assessment and management.

Sixty percent (60%) of the Bahamas' GDP is attributed to tourism (Solomon et al., 2025). Similarly, three taxi drivers and 1 hotelier emphasized that companies should delay laying off workers during a pandemic and must endeavor to keep employees engaged as long as it is

possible. While three hoteliers, two taxi drivers, and three Airbnb operators expressed a need for disaster relief packages during and post disasters. Interestingly, only some hoteliers stated that the government should diversify the economy because tourism contributes considerably to the country's GDP and is considered the bread and butter for the country. The respondents verbalized the importance of sustainability and resilience not only to the entrepreneurial tourism industry but even at the high school level. Research indicates that twenty percent of the hoteliers highlighted the importance of crises, risks and prevention education and training for K-12 students and employees. Thirty percent of the participants expressed a desire to see the government and the private sector collaboration to buffer natural disasters. (Hamilton, 2021).

Not only have the interview questions intertwined with the research questions, but the literature review confirms the theoretical framework. The findings confirmed that the conceptual model of resiliency theory undergirds the socio-ecological, psychological, economic, and management crises strategies of the Bahamian crisis management stakeholders (Ong et al., 2020; Weise et al., 2020). The researchers' interconnection of the conceptual framework to the literature review have diverse implications, two of which are Proactive Resilience and Adaptation (PRA) and Economic Recuperation and Business Continuity (ERBC) perspectives. On the one hand, PRA supports consolidation disaster preparedness, differentiating the Bahamian tourism products, and integrating resilience planning into tourism operations (Khadka, 2024). Contrarily, the ERBC perspective emphasizes accelerating visitor arrivals, rebuilding tourism employment, and providing financial assistance to struggling tourism enterprises to ensure economic renewal (Park et al., 2024). To this end, these views reflect the discourse about long-term resilience investment and immediate economic recovery prioritization post-COVID-19 crisis controlling.

4.1. Analysis

4.1.1 The Conceptual Framework Review

Research confirms that disaster preparedness is more effective when individual and community efforts combine. Thus, researchers propose Protective Motivation (PMT) and Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Theories (CBDRD). Rogers (1975) introduced the Protection Motivation Theory and revised it in 1983 to include susceptibility to health disasters, risks and anticipated behaviours. Although the theory focused on the healthy preventative approaches, it is relevant to disaster risks and management. Hence, the researchers contend that this proactive approach is necessary to lessen the adverse effects of anticipated disasters, the emotional effects and coping strategies (Marikyan et al., 2023). If this PMT theory entails effective self-management and efficient response tactics, it becomes relevant to the discourse. The model proposes rational decision making relative to rewards and costs. In that vein, the Bahamian hospitality industry could seriously consider the cost-effective benefits of preemptive emotional, social and economic strategies (Marikyan et al., 2023).

4.1.2 Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction

Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction is a communal awareness and ability to create proactive risk preventative measures. Such community groups include (but not limited to), community-based organizations (CBOs) and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) working towards quality knowledge, extensive network and ensuring sustainability (Shaw, 2012). The theories' primary focus is outlined below in Table 3.

Table 3. Protection Motivation and Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Theories

Theory	Primary Focus	Preparedness Strategy
Protection Motivation Theory (PMT)	Individual decision-making and behavior	Encourages personal preparedness relative to risk perception
Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)	Community resilience and participation	Strengthens collective readiness and local ability

Note. The Main Focus of the PMT and CBDRR created by the researchers.

Further, vulnerability and resilience awareness are critical theoretical concepts in this discourse. Stakeholders must be cognizant of the fiscal, social, political, infrastructural and economic vulnerabilities in disaster resilience and management (Ishiwatari et al., 2026). A more profound consciousness of disaster vulnerability increases the chances of resistance. A comparison of the previously mentioned Resilience Theory to the Vulnerability Theory is as follows in Table 4:

Table 4. Vulnerability and Resilience Theories

Vulnerability Theory	Resilience Theory
Centers the reason for people's risks.	Focuses on people's recovery and coping skills.
Assesses the undergirding collective and monetary weaknesses.	Reflects vigor, adjustment, and recovery capacity.
Focuses on the reduction of vulnerability.	Focuses on building resilience.
Frequently used in disaster risk reduction.	Frequently used in disaster management and climate adaptation.

Note. Additional theories (vulnerability and resilience) created by Researchers.

5. Discussion

Numerous studies have demonstrated that the COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected hospitality and tourism industries, with key concerns centering on sustainability, psychological impacts, resilience, and the shortcomings of crisis management approaches (Drammeh, 2024). The researchers concede that the discussed hardships endured by the Bahamian Tourism and Hospitality industry can be buffered if not mitigated against with firm proactive and crisis management strategies. The limitations (Ross et al., 2019) composed (but not limited to) the few islands reached of the Bahamian archipelago and also the convenience sampling and data collection process. Further, the representation of the findings reflected the tourism sector's lived experiences, values and reactions to the sample on the affected islands. For instance, Lamquin (2020) and Martinez (2019) confirmed that while Freeport and Abaco were recuperating from the unprecedented devastations of Hurricane Dorian, 2019, they were challenged with the (COVID-19) pandemic some months subsequently. Notwithstanding, Freeport and Abaco parishioners attributed their resilience to their Christian beliefs (Storr et al., 2025) which assisted with buffering their adversities. The researchers maintain that faith, optimism and self-efficacy also improved post-adversities (Konecny et al., 2025).

Research evidenced that attention to innovate solutions, credibility building, pre-and post-catastrophe planning; risk and crisis management are relevant to post-disaster resilience (Parker, 2020). Public-private partnership is possible implications for socio-economic and ecological tourism industry protection (Castelblanco et al., 2024). Overall, the findings reinforced the management crises, psychological, socio-ecological, economic, and conceptual

model of the undergirding resiliency theory and the Bahamian crisis management stakeholders' strategies (Leslie et al., 2024, Weise et al., 2020).

The researchers, while endorsing the study's future research for diversification, private sector disaster relief cooperation and preplanning (Lamquin, 2020; Martinez, 2019), propose one of reflection. Though often overlooked, reflective thinking is a critical mental process in understanding the tourism and hospitality sector (Filep et al., 2024; Mortari, 2015). Stankov (2020) further advocates thoughtful reflection on the COVID-19 pandemic to foster greater awareness of its implications. This process of introspection and retrospection yields important economic and social insights that can guide disaster preparedness initiatives and enhance the resilience of tourism stakeholders.

5.1. Recommendations

The theoretical framework in the doctoral study revealed several advantages of proactive measures. In addition to the recommendations offered by Hamilton (2021) pages 108-9, the researchers have proposed potent steps in addressing the issue at hand. Fortifying participants' emergent themes and insights derived from the theoretical background; the researchers propose relevant context-specific approaches, proactive risk management and resilience-building strategies for the Bahamian and regional contexts:

1. Regional and local disaster management teams and committees such as The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean ECLAC/ UNECLAC), Caribbean Resilience Facility (CRF), NEMA and the Red Cross Society, among others should collaborate for regional fortitude prior to and during disasters for the industry in discussion (McLean et al., 2020; McLean, S., et al., 2020). Local and regional coordination mechanisms, and disaster-risk assessment processes to improve disaster management outcomes (Abbas et al., 2025; Roberts et al., 2025).
2. Amend and reinforce building codes and enforcement mechanisms to enhance infrastructure resilience against disasters.
3. Adopt stronger cooperative responsibility, communal collaboration, and social consistency to address traumatic, psychological and other mental health concerns experienced by disaster survivors.
4. Increase access to financial services, recovery funding, and economic support mechanisms for disaster-affected Bahamians, particularly vulnerable and minority populations, to facilitate equitable recovery and long-term resilience.

Among disaster agencies' mandates, the researchers propose that NEMA should be held accountable for reinforcing these responsibilities:

5. Determining the availability of, and provide consumable non-edible supplies, stocked in distribution facilities and customer supply centres. Coordinate when available according to Government Regulations established Protocol.
6. Effectively serving as the primary and agency for Emergency Support Function #7 (ESF 7) at the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) or other designated or assigned area. This sector should collaborate the Department of Social Services

and the Government Purchasing Unit [Ministry of Finance] (DPR, 2008, 24-25 [as cited in Kshetri, 2020]).

7. Demonstrating knowledge, and positive practices (Gearhart et al., 2018) to forge SMEs that are effective, financial and economical (Dolz et al., 2019).
8. Implementing strong alliances governmental, non-governmental, political and other community-based agencies to accelerate disaster recovery (Finn et al., 2019).
9. Proactively and in a timely manner assessing excess mortality rates for policy makers' advance disaster planning (Cruz-Cano & Mead, 2019).

6. Conclusion

Tourism and hospitality are among the most disaster-sensitive industries worldwide. Developing economies characterized by high import dependence and a strong reliance on tourism revenues are especially vulnerable to the cascading economic effects of natural and human-induced disasters. The nation exemplifies this vulnerability, as tourism remains the cornerstone of its economy. Further, the use of the emerging themes and subthemes from data analysis are likely to assist with improved economic recovery strategies for NEMA, Red Cross and other stakeholders in disaster prevention and control. Conclusively, the implementation of sustainable crisis management frameworks, resilience strategies, and community-based disaster risk and vulnerability reduction initiatives is essential to safeguarding the long-term competitiveness and sustainability of the Bahamas' tourism and hospitality sectors.

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