

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

December 2018 | Volume V | ISSUE 7

## Announcement

The globe is on watch for an El Nino that will likely develop during the early part of the upcoming dry season, placing portions of the Caribbean on watch for potential drought conditions. There is greater concern that parts of the Leeward Islands, northern Bahamas, and the ABC Islands will likely experience short term drought-like conditions that can impact agricultural (particularly crop) activity and small streams by the end of February 2019. Long term drought that can impact groundwater and large rivers and reservoirs by the end of May 2019 is possible in many parts of the region, with greater concern in the vicinity of the western Caribbean islands, the ABC islands and Martinique.

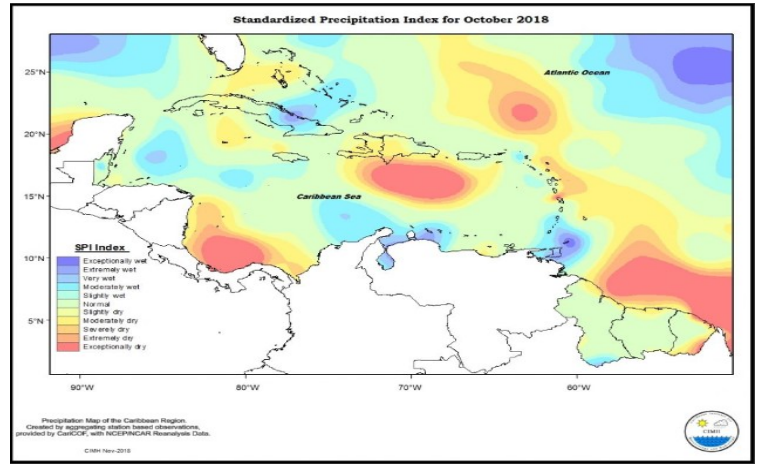
## Month at a Glance

Rainfall totals in the islands of the eastern Caribbean were mixed, with many above and below normal amounts. Trinidad ranged from very to extremely wet; Tobago extreme to exceptionally wet; Grenada and St. Vincent moderately wet; Barbados slight to moderately dry; St. Lucia and St. Kitts normal; Martinique normal to exceptionally dry; Dominica and Guadeloupe normal to moderately dry; Antigua moderately dry; and Anguilla and St. Maarten slightly wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from very wet in southern Guyana to exceptionally dry in northern and southeastern French Guiana. Aruba was slightly wet, while Curacao was very to extremely wet. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal, but Hispaniola ranged from normal in northeastern Dominican Republic to extremely dry in the south. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from moderately dry in the northwest to moderately wet in the southeast, but Grand Cayman was moderately dry. Cuba ranged from moderately dry to extremely wet, while northern Bahamas was normal to moderately dry. Belize ranged from slightly dry in the southeast to very wet near central areas.

## Latest News

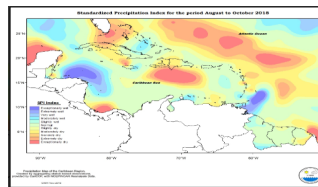
The region still on watch for an evolving El Nino. Read more;

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/lanina/enso\\_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/lanina/enso_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf)

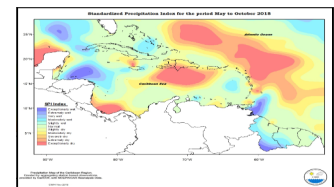


## August-September-October

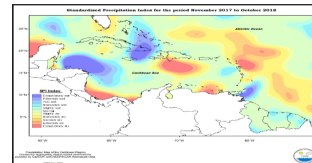
For the three month period, mixed rainfall totals were experienced relative to normal. Trinidad was moderate to extremely wet from north to south; Tobago normal to very wet from west to east; Grenada moderately wet; Barbados normal to very wet from north to southeast; St. Vincent, St. Kitts, Anguilla and St. Maarten normal; St. Lucia normal to moderately dry; Martinique normal to extremely dry; Dominica normal to moderately dry; Guadeloupe normal to severely dry; and Antigua slightly dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately wet in the north and south of Guyana to severely dry in northeastern and southeastern French Guiana. Aruba was normal, but Curacao was moderately wet. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal but Hispaniola from normal in eastern Dominican Republic to exceptionally dry in the south. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from extremely dry in the northwest to moderately wet in the east, but Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba ranged from extremely dry to moderately wet, but northern Bahamas was slight to extremely dry. Conditions in Belize ranged from severely dry in the southeast to very wet in the south



**AUG 2018- OCT 2018**  
**SPI 3 MONTHS**



**MAY 2018- OCT 2018**  
**SPI 6 MONTHS**



**NOV 2017- OCT 2018**  
**SPI 12 MONTHS**

## The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation Monitoring Network

The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network is led by the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), the World Meteorological Organization's Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for the Caribbean. The Network was launched in January 2009 under the Caribbean Water Initiative ([CARWIN](#)) to support equitable and sustainable Integrated Water Resources Management.

The concept was born out of the need to mitigate and respond to the creeping phenomenon, drought. Drought and the general precipitation status is monitored at the regional scale. Efforts are being made to enhance drought monitoring at the national level.

## The Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF)

The CariCOF brings together climate experts and meteorological services in the Caribbean region on an operational basis to produce a monthly climate outlook. CariCOF interacts with sectoral users to assess the likely implications of the outlooks on the most pertinent socio-economic sectors. The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), in its role as WMO Regional Climate Centre, coordinates the CariCOF process. [Read more.....](#)

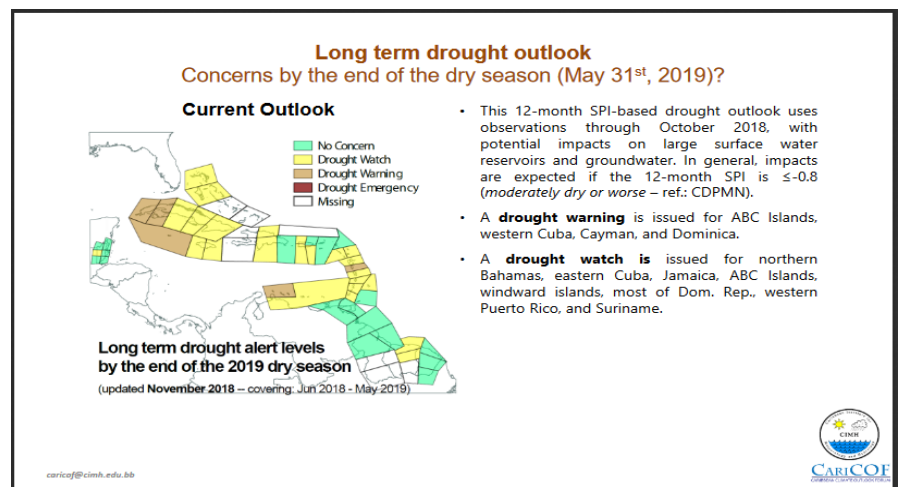
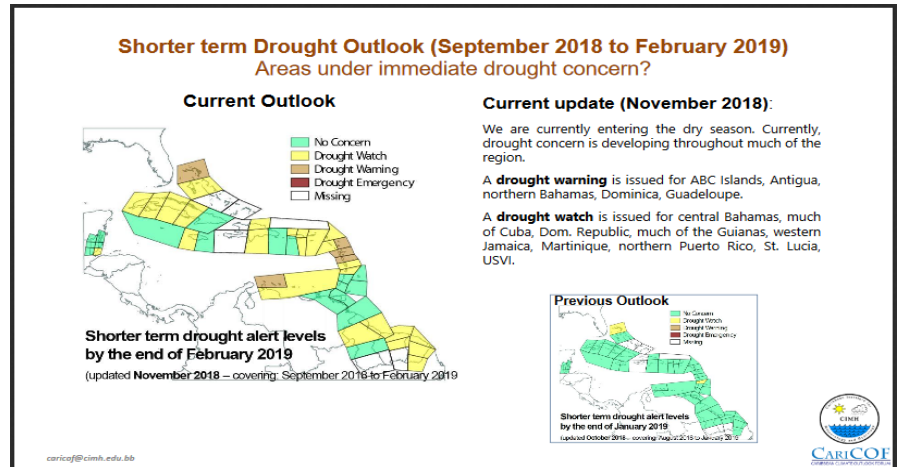
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

## Drought Outlook for the End of February



## Current Drought Situation

- Current drought situation (up to the end of October 2018):**
  - Shorter term drought is ongoing in parts of the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominica, Hispaniola and Martinique.
  - Continued long term drought is currently occurring in Antigua, N Belize and S Hispaniola.
- Shorter term drought situation (by end of February 2019):**
  - Shorter term drought is evolving in the ABC islands, Antigua, northern Bahamas, Dominica, Guadeloupe.
  - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in the Central Bahamas, much of Cuba, Dominican Republic, much of the Guiana's, Western Jamaica, Martinique, Northern Puerto Rico, St Lucia, USV
- Long term drought situation (by end of May 2019)**
  - An El Nino is expected to develop and contribute to reduced rainfall in the coming months.
  - Long term drought is evolving in ABC islands, western Cuba, Cayman and Dominica.
  - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in northern Bahamas, eastern Cuba, Jamaica, ABC islands, windward islands, most of Dom Republic, western Puerto Rico and Suriname.

We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)