

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

February 2021 | Volume V II | ISSUE 9

## Announcement

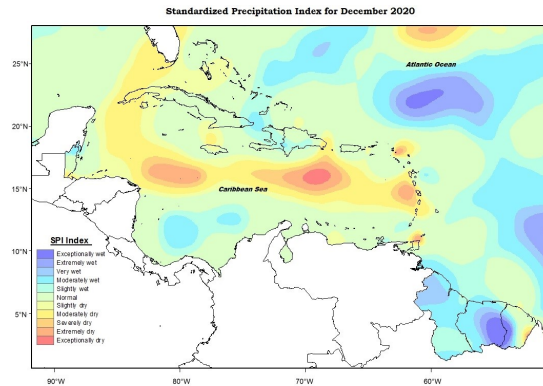
Though most of the eastern Caribbean experienced normal to below normal rainfall in December 2020, there were few concerns for that part of the region over future short- and long-term drought. As a precaution, interests in the northern Leeward islands should monitor their resources for short term drought by the end of April 2021, while Barbados and St. Vincent and the Grenadines should monitor for long term drought by the end of May 2021. Over the rest of the region, Cuba should also monitor its resources for short term drought, but there is some concern in the vicinity of southern Belize over long term drought by May that can affect ground water and large rivers.

## Month at a Glance

The islands of the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal to below normal during the month of December. Trinidad and Tobago ranged from normal to extremely dry; Grenada slightly wet to normal; Barbados, Antigua, St Kitts and St Croix normal; St Vincent and Saint Lucia moderately dry; Martinique slightly dry in the southeast to severely dry in the northwest; Dominica and Guadeloupe moderately dry to normal; St Maarten normal to Moderately dry; Anguilla normal to slightly dry; and St Thomas slightly dry. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from exceptionally wet in the vicinity of the central and southern Suriname/French Guiana border, to extremely dry in southeastern French Guiana, and to slightly wet in northeast and southern Guyana. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Puerto Rico was normal. Hispaniola ranged from moderately wet in the extreme northwest of Haiti and on the southern border to slightly dry in the north and moderately dry in the extreme east of the Dominican Republic. [Read more:](#)

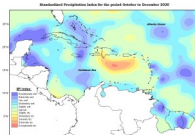
## Latest News

There are no drought impacts reported from the region at this time.

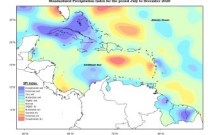


## October-November-December

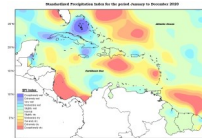
Over the three month period conditions were predominantly normal to above normal throughout the eastern Caribbean. Trinidad ranged from moderately wet in the southeast to slightly dry in the northwest; Tobago and Anguilla normal to slightly wet; Grenada, St Vincent, St Kitts, St Thomas and St Maarten normal; Barbados and Guadeloupe normal to very wet; Saint Lucia slight to very wet south to north; Martinique moderately wet to normal; Dominica normal in the south to exceptionally wet in the northeast; Antigua slightly wet; and St Croix moderate to slightly dry. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from normal in southern Guyana to exceptionally wet in northern Guyana and in the vicinity of the central and southern border of Suriname/ French Guiana to slightly dry in northwestern and southeastern French Guiana. Aruba ranged from slightly wet to normal and Curacao was slightly wet. Puerto Rico was normal. Hispaniola ranged from severely dry in the southern tip of the Dominican Republic to moderately wet in the extreme southwest of Haiti and in northeastern areas. Jamaica ranged from normal in the west to exceptionally wet in the east. Grand Cayman was moderately wet. Cuba ranged from normal in west central areas to exceptionally wet in the extreme west and to extremely wet in eastern areas. Northern Bahamas ranged from extreme to moderately wet and Belize ranged from normal in southern and western areas to exceptionally wet in the north.



**OCT 2020- DEC 2020**  
**SPI 3 MONTHS**



**JUL 2020 - DEC 2020**  
**SPI 6 MONTHS**



**JAN 2020 - DEC 2020**  
**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.....](#)

### For more information contact:

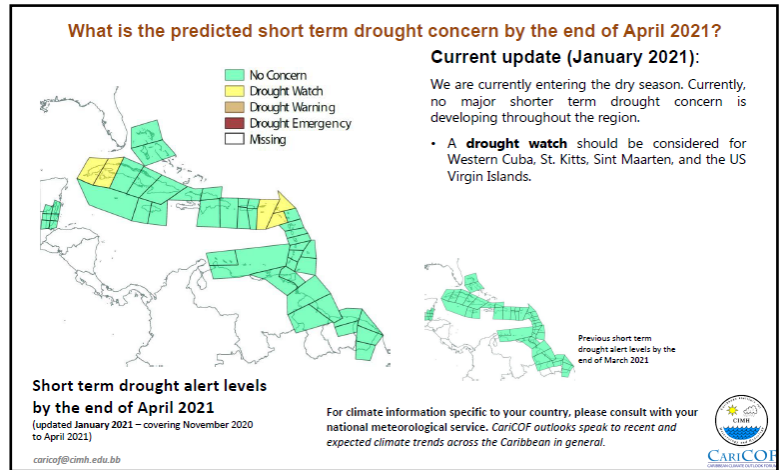
Mr. Adrian Trotman:  
[atrotman@cimh.edu.bb](mailto:atrotman@cimh.edu.bb)

Mrs. Lisa Kirton-Reed  
[lkreed@cimh.edu.bb](mailto:lkreed@cimh.edu.bb)

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

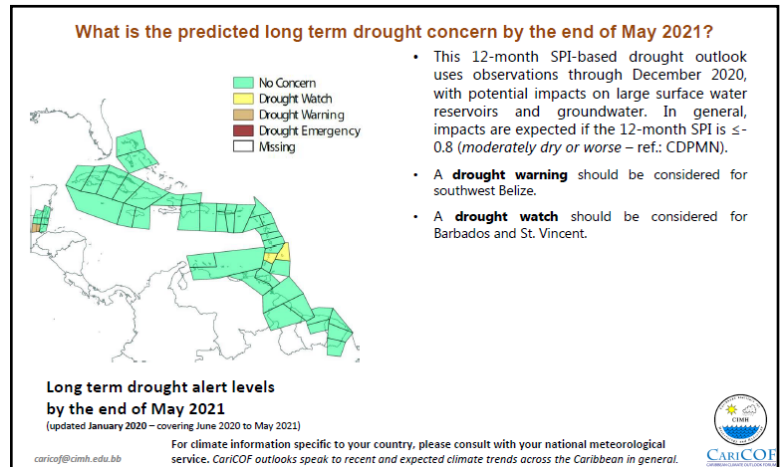
## CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

### Map of short-term drought by the end of April 2021



- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of April 2021):
  - Short term drought might possibly develop or continue in Western Cuba, St. Kitts, Sint Maarten, and the US Virgin Islands.

### Map of long-term drought by the end of May 2021



- Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2021):
  - Long term drought is evolving in southwest Belize.
  - Long term drought might possibly develop in Barbados and St. Vincent.
  - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the dry season.

"We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring their environment for signs of drought, and look out for our monthly updates"

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)