

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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## Announcement

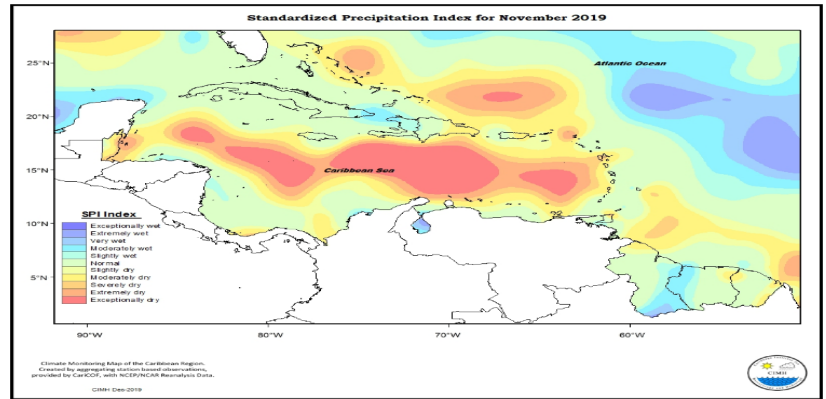
The late wet season month of November was drier than normal in much of the region, adding to water stress in those countries, entering the dry season. As the region continues through the rest of the 2020 dry season, concerns exist for short term drought that can impact soil moisture, streams and small rivers, particularly in Barbados, Belize, Guadeloupe, the ABC Islands and eastern Puerto Rico. Even more countries will have concerns over long term drought that can influence large rivers and reservoirs, and groundwater by the end of the 2020 dry season at the end of May. Countries with concern include Trinidad, Barbados, St. Vincent, St. Kitts, the ABC Islands Cayman Islands, Belize and parts of Hispaniola and Cuba.

## Month at a Glance

Rainfall in the islands of the eastern Caribbean was predominantly normal to below normal for the month of November, with the exception of Trinidad, which was severely dry to slightly wet from the north east to the south west. Tobago, Barbados, St. Kitts, St Lucia and Martinique were normal to slightly dry; Grenada and Antigua normal; St Vincent and Dominica slight to moderately dry; Guadeloupe moderate to severely dry; St Maarten severe to extremely dry; and St Croix and St. Thomas slightly dry. In the Guianas, with the exception of northern Guyana, northern Suriname/French Guiana border and eastern French Guiana which were slight to moderately dry, conditions were normal to very wet. Curacao was moderate to severely dry. Puerto Rico was normal to moderately dry from west to east. In Hispaniola, conditions ranged from moderately wet in the extreme north western areas of Haiti to moderately dry in eastern and the extreme southern areas of the Dominican Republic, as well as in the extreme south western tip of Haiti. Jamaica was predominantly normal with the exception of the extreme west which was slightly dry. Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba was mostly normal with the exception of the extreme east which was slight to moderately wet. Northern Bahamas was normal to severely dry, whereas conditions in Belize were normal in the North West to severely dry in the east.

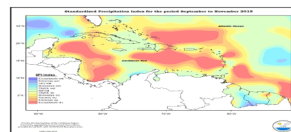
## Latest News

Jamaica weighs decentralized desalination, Read more; <https://www.fluencecorp.com/jamaica-weighs-decentralized-desalination/>

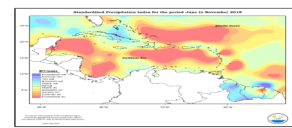


## September-October-November

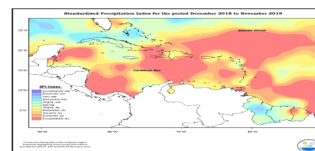
Over the three month period, rainfall in the eastern Caribbean was normal to below normal, except Tobago which though predominantly normal, was slightly wet in the extreme west. Trinidad was normal to moderately dry; Grenada and Antigua normal; Barbados slight to extremely dry; St Vincent severe to extremely dry; St Lucia moderate to extremely dry from north to south; Martinique was normal to extremely dry from south to north; Dominica was slight to severely dry; Guadeloupe moderate to exceptionally dry; St. Kitts slight to moderately dry; St. Maarten and St Thomas, moderately dry; and Croix moderate to severely dry. In the Guianas, conditions were predominantly normal to extremely wet with the exception of northern and south-western Guyana, northern Suriname/ French Guiana, and eastern French Guiana where rainfall was below normal and ranged to exceptionally dry. Curacao was moderately dry. In Puerto Rico, conditions were normal in the east to moderately dry in the extreme south west. In Hispaniola, apart from Haiti and western areas of the Dominican Republic that were normal, conditions were slight to exceptionally dry elsewhere. Jamaica was mostly normal with the exception of the north western areas which were slight to moderately dry, whereas, Grand Cayman was moderate to severely dry from east to west Eastern Cuba was normal to slightly dry, while the west was mixed with more central areas being slight to severely dry and the western extreme slight to very wet. Over the Northern Bahamas, conditions ranged from normal to moderately dry, and in Belize from normal in the south, to severely dry in central Belize.



**SEP 2019- NOV 2019**  
**SPI 3 MONTHS**



**JUN 2019- NOV 2019**  
**SPI 6 MONTHS**



**DEC 2018- NOV 2019**  
**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.....](#)

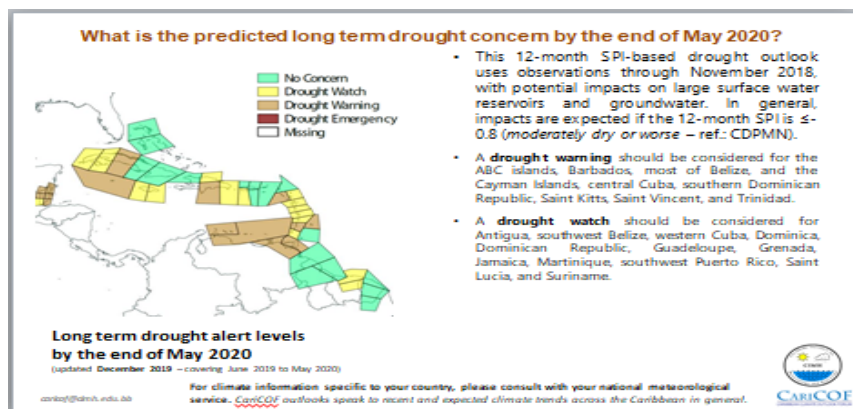
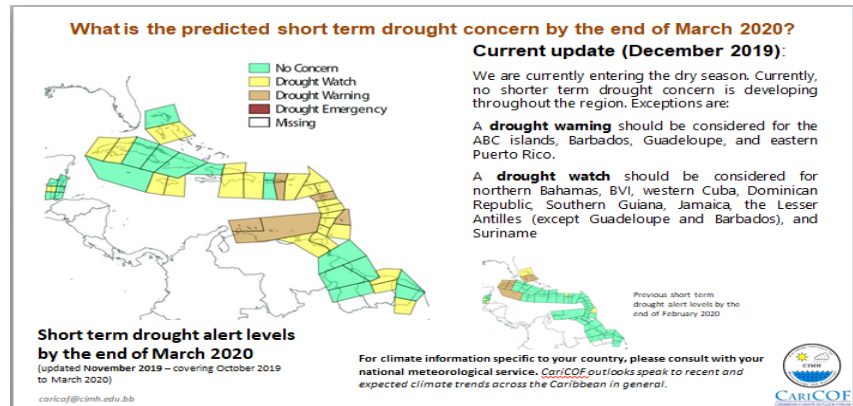
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

## Drought Outlook for the End of March 2020 CariCOF's Drought Alert Map



## Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of November 2019):**
  - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in northern Bahamas, Belize, Guadeloupe, and Sint Maarten.
  - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Barbados, western Cuba, eastern Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, St Vincent.
- **Shorter term drought situation (by end of March 2020):**
  - Shorter term drought is evolving in ABC islands, Barbados, Guadeloupe and eastern Puerto Rico.
  - Shorter term drought might possibly continue in northern Bahamas, BVI, western Cuba, Dominican Republic, Southern Guiana, Jamaica, the Lesser Antilles, (except Guadeloupe and Barbados) and Suriname.
- **Long term drought situation (by end of May 2020):**
  - Long term drought is evolving in the ABC Islands, Barbados, most of Belize, Cayman Islands, central Cuba, Southern Dominican Republic, St Kitts, St Vincent and Trinidad.
  - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in Antigua, south west Belize, Western Cuba, Dominica, Dominican republic, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Jamaica, Martinique, southwest Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Suriname.
  - Areas ending up in long term drought may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the upcoming dry season.

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

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)