CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

December 2024 Volume XI | ISSUE 7

Announcement

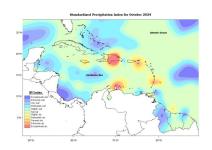
There is the likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall in the southern portion of the eastern chain and normal to below normal in the northwestern Caribbean from December to February 2025. With this, there are concerns over short term drought that can impact small rivers, streams and ponds in Cuba, northern Bahamas, southwestern Belize, southeastern Puerto Rico and parts of the US Virgin Islands by the end of that period. Other parts of the region, including Saint Lucia, Dominica, St. Kitts, Anguilla, St. Maarten, western Puerto Rico, southern Dominican Republic and eastern Jamaica should monitor these resources. Though there is the likelihood for more widespread normal to above normal rainfall in the Caribbean, concerns also exist about long term drought that can impact large rivers, reservoirs and groundwater by the end of May in southeastern Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands and southwestern

Month at a Glance

During the month of October, apart from Trinidad that ranged from moderately dry in the southwest to extremely wet in the northeast and Tobago that was extreme to moderately wet, conditions were mostly normal to below normal throughout the eastern Caribbean. Grenada, Martinique, Guadeloupe and St Kitts were normal to slightly dry; Barbados and Saint Lucia severe to moderately dry; St Vincent and St Croix extremely dry; Dominica and St Maarten moderate to slightly dry; Antigua normal; Anguilla slightly dry and St Thomas severely dry. Read More;

Latest News

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August-September-October

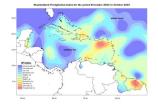
Over the three month period conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were mixed. Trinidad was moderately wet to moderately dry; Tobago severely dry to normal; Grenada predominantly slight to moderately dry; Barbados, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Antigua, St Kitts, St Croix, St Maarten and Anguilla were normal;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



<u>AUG 2024 - OCT 2024</u> <u>SPI 3 MONTHS</u>



MAY 2024 - OCT 2024 SPI 6 MONTHS



NOV 2023 - OCT 2024 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 socioeconomic 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:

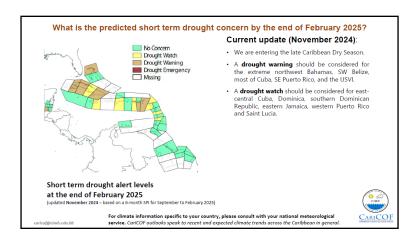
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Website: CDPMN Drought Monitor

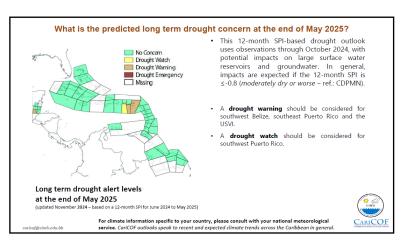
CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of February 2025



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of February 2025):
 - Short-term drought is evolving in the extreme northwest Bahamas, SW Belize, most of Cuba, SE Puerto Rico, and the USVI.
 - Short-term drought might possibly develop or continue in central Cuba, Dominica, southern Dominican Republic, eastern Jamaica, western Puerto Rico and Saint Lucia.

Map of long-term drought at the end of May 2025



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of May 2025):
 - Long-term drought is evolving in southwest Belize, southeast Puerto Rico and the USVI.
 - Long-term drought might possibly develop or continue in southwest Puerto Rico.

"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

Caribbean Drought Bulletin 2