

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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Announcement

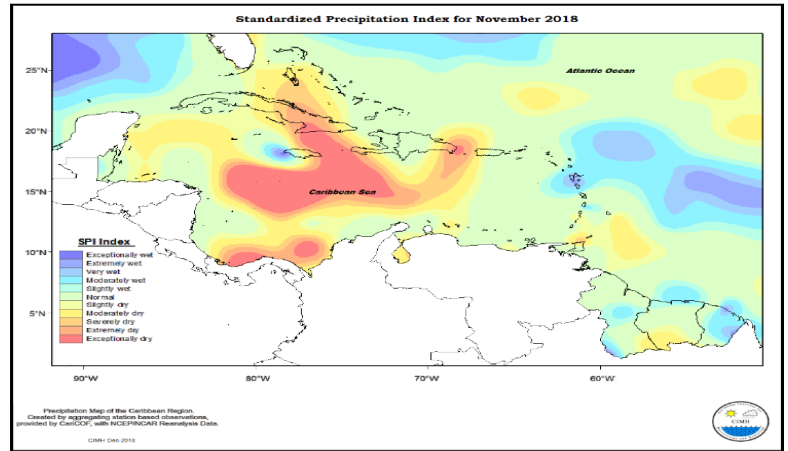
Short and long term droughts are likely to develop in parts of the Caribbean during this dry season, as a weak to moderate El Nino becomes more likely. The Caribbean in general should monitor water resources and look out for updates on the situation.

Month at a Glance

For the month of November, the southern portion of the eastern chain of islands experienced normal to below normal rainfall, while the remainder of the eastern chain experienced normal to above normal rainfall. Trinidad was normal to severely dry from south to north; Tobago slight to moderately dry; Grenada, Barbados, St. Kitts, Anguilla, and St. Maarten normal; St. Vincent normal to slightly dry; St. Lucia normal to moderately wet from north to south; Martinique normal to slightly wet; Dominica moderate to very wet; Guadeloupe moderate to extremely wet; and Antigua slight to moderately wet. Conditions in the Guiana's ranged from moderately dry in southern Suriname and southeast Guyana to extremely wet in northern and eastern French Guiana and southwestern Guyana. Aruba was normal, but Curacao slight to moderately dry. Puerto Rico ranged from moderately dry in the west to normal in the east; while Hispaniola was predominantly normal apart from the southwest Haiti that was slight to extremely dry and eastern Dominican Republic that was slight to exceptionally dry. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from extremely wet in the west to exceptionally dry in the east; but Grand Cayman was slight to moderately dry. Cuba ranged from normal in the west to exceptionally dry in the southeast, while northern Bahamas was normal to moderately dry. Belize was normal to moderately wet from east to west.

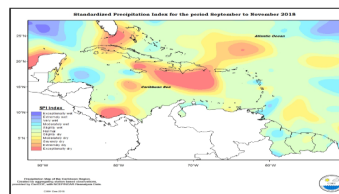
Latest News

The Caribbean is expecting to see more frequent and severe droughts, from reduced precipitation and increased evaporative demand; Read more <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1029/2018GL079408>

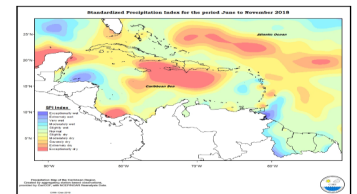


September-October-November

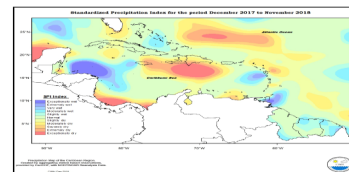
For the three month period, apart from Martinique that was moderately dry, the islands of the eastern Caribbean experienced normal to above normal rainfall. Trinidad, Tobago, Dominica and Guadeloupe were normal to moderately wet; Grenada, Barbados, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Antigua, St. Kitts, and St. Maarten normal. Conditions in the Guiana's ranged from moderately wet in northern and southwest Guyana and northern French Guiana, to slightly dry around the northeastern border of Suriname with French Guiana. Aruba was normal, but Curacao normal to slightly wet. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from severely dry in the west to normal in the east; while Hispaniola ranged from normal in the north to exceptionally dry in eastern Dominican Republic and to extremely dry in southwestern Haiti. Jamaica ranged from moderately wet in the west to severely dry in the north and east, but Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba ranged from normal in western and northeastern areas to extremely dry in west central areas; but northern Bahamas was normal to severely dry. Belize ranged from moderately wet in the west to moderately dry in the north.



SEP 2018- NOV 2018
SPI 3 MONTHS



JUN 2018- NOV 2018
SPI 6 MONTHS



DEC 2017- NOV 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.....](#)

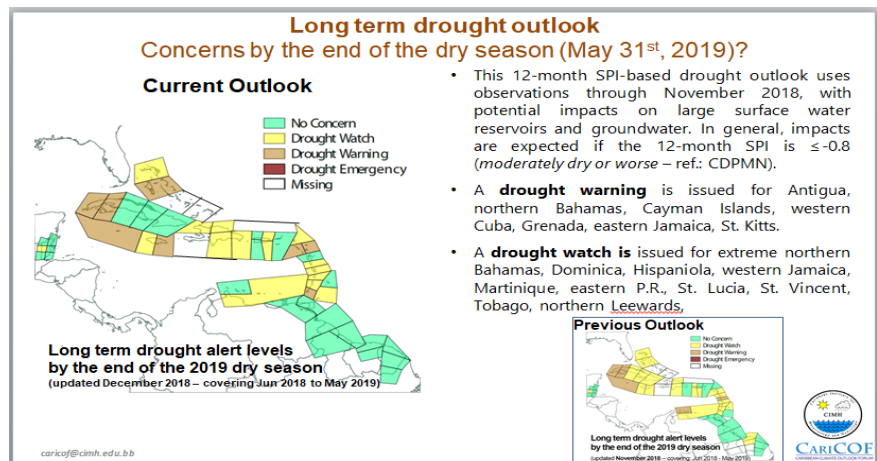
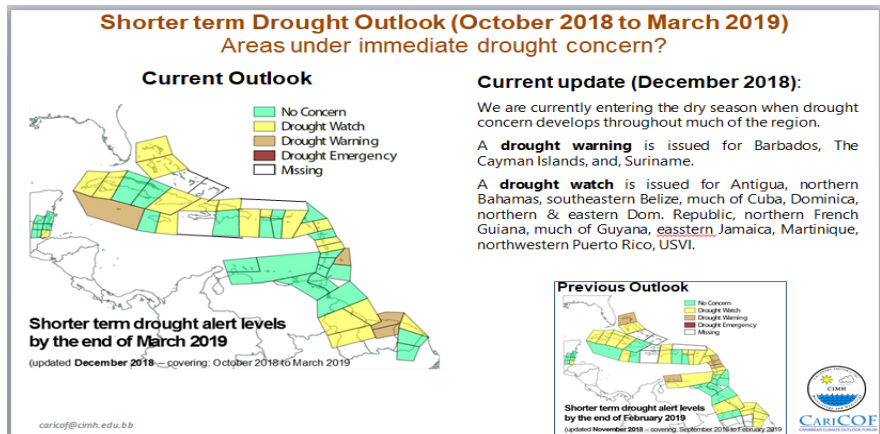
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

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



Current Drought Situation

- Current drought situation (up to the end of November 2018):**
 - Cayman, Southern-most Hispaniola, eastern Jamaica and much of the Leeward Isls have Seen long term drought developing.
 - Shorter term drought is seen in northwestern parts of the Bahamas and Cuba, Southern-Most Hispaniola and northern Jamaica.
- Shorter term drought situation (by end of March 2019):**
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in Barbados, Cayman Islands and coastal Suriname.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in Antigua, N Bahamas, SE Belize, much of Cuba, Dominica, N and E Dom Republic, N French Guiana, much of Guyana, E Jamaica, Martinique, NW Puerto Rico, USVI.
- Long term drought situation (by end of May 2019)**
 - A weak El Nino is expected to strengthen and contribute to reduced rainfall until at least March.
 - Long term drought is evolving in Antigua, northern Bahamas, Cayman Islands, western Cuba, Grenada, eastern Jamaica, St. Kitts.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in extreme N Bahamas, Dominica, Hispaniola, W Jamaica, Martinique, E Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, N Leewards.

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

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)