CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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Announcement

Despite pockets of meteorological drought that currently exists in parts of the Leeward Islands and Cuba, by the end of August, short term drought that impact small rivers, streams and ponds would be of little concern. However, by the end of November 2021, there may be evolving concerns over long term drought that can limit available water from large rivers, reservoirs and ground water sources, in the vicinity of western Belize and St. Vincent. This should be monitored as the end of the wet season approaches.

Month at a Glance

Mixed conditions prevailed throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of April. Trinidad ranged from severely dry in the extreme southeast to moderately wet in northern areas; Tobago moderately wet to normal; Grenada, Barbados, Guadeloupe, St Croix normal; Saint Lucia normal to very wet; Martinique and St Maarten normal to moderately dry; Dominica predominantly normal with slightly wet areas in the extreme south; Antigua and St Kitts slight to moderately dry; Anguilla normal to slightly dry and St Thomas slightly wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from normal to extremely wet. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal with slightly wet areas in the northwest. Hispaniola ranged from slightly wet in southeastern Haiti to extremely dry in southeastern Dominican Republic. Jamaica ranged from moderately wet in south central areas to moderately dry in the west and slightly dry in the east. Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba ranged from normal in western and eastern areas to extremely dry in the northeast. Northern Bahamas ranged from moderately dry to moderately wet, and Belize ranged from predominantly normal to moderately dry in the west and to very wet in the north.

Latest News

Drought continues in Antigua, Read More; https://268weather.wordpress.com/2021/05/25/ drought-continues/



The islands of the eastern Caribbean experienced mixed conditions throughout the three month period. Trinidad ranged from extreme to slightly wet; Tobago, Saint Lucia and Dominica normal to moderately wet; Grenada moderately wet; Barbados and St Thomas normal; Martinique predominantly normal to slightly wet; Guadeloupe moderately wet in the west to moderately dry in the east; Antigua and St Kitts moderate to severely dry; St Maarten severely dry to normal, Anguilla slightly dry to slightly wet and St Croix moderate to slightly dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from normal to exceptionally wet. Aruba was normal and Curacao ranged from moderate to very wet. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal with slightly dry conditions in the southeast. Hispaniola ranged from extremely dry in southeastern areas to very wet in northwestern Dominican Republic. Jamaica and Grand Cayman were normal. Cuba ranged from slightly dry in the extreme west and normal in the extreme east to exceptionally dry in the north. Northern Bahamas ranged from normal to extremely dry and Belize ranged from normal in central areas to severely dry in the west and moderately wet in the north.



<u>FEB 2021 - APR 2021</u> <u>SPI 3 MONTHS</u>



<u>NOV 2020 - APR 2021</u> <u>SPI 6 MONTHS</u>



MAY 2020 - APR 2021 SPI 12 MONTHS

The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation Monitoring Network

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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 (<u>CARWIN</u>) 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. <u>Read more....</u>

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Website: CDPMN Drought Monitor

CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of August 2021



Shorter term drought situation (by the end of August 2021):
– Short term drought is not expected.



Map of long-term drought by the end of November 2021

Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2021):

 Long term drought might possibly develop in west-central Belize and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

"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