

# **2024 WET SEASON SUMMARY**

The wet season spans from May to November.

The season is bimodal, climatologically with the first peak in June and the second in October.

### **RAINFALL STATISTICS**



- This season in Grand Cayman was **wetter** than average compared to the climatological average for the season. The total rainfall surpassed last year's total (38.5 in).
- This season now ranks as the **5th wettest Wet Season** on record, previously held in 1979.
- This season marks the **2nd wettest June** and the **3rd wettest September** on record.
- This wet season occurred under neutral-ENSO conditions, typically associated with the potential for above-average hurricane season activity and near-average rainfall totals with variability influenced by interactions with tropical systems. As shown in the *RAINFALL TOTALS VS AVERAGE* graph, rainfall totals were overall above-average, with significant outliers due to these systems during the hurricane season.

The public is encouraged to stay prepared and informed about severe weather updates provided by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service.

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HIGHLIGHTS



# **2024 WET SEASON SUMMARY**

The wet season spans from May to November.

The season is bimodal, climatologically with the first peak in June and the second in October.

### RAINFALL STATISTICS



- This season now ranks as the **4th wettest Wet Season** on record, previously held in 2007.
- This season marks the **wettest November** and the **4th wettest September** on record.
- This wet season occurred under neutral-ENSO conditions, typically associated with the potential for above-average hurricane season activity and near-average rainfall totals with variability influenced by interactions with tropical systems. As shown in the RAINFALL TOTALS VS AVERAGE graph, rainfall totals were overall above-average, with significant outliers due to these systems during the hurricane season.

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The season is bimodal, climatologically with the first peak in June and the second in October.

## **TEMPERATURE STATISTICS**



Anomalies: monthly values compared to their 30-year averages.

Excessive heat days: days within a month where the maximum temperature exceeds the average temperature for its respective month.



Averages: based on the current 30-year averages for the climatological period of 1991-2020

- This season in Grand Cayman was **warmer** than average compared to the climatological average for the season. Last year's season (**warmest on record**) remains warmer than this year's by 1.5°F.
- This season now ranks as the **2nd warmest Wet Season** on record, previously held in 2019.
- Monthly maximum temperatures exceeded their averages for the whole season.
- Overall, the seasonal average temperature has increased by about 1.1°F over the last 10 years.
- This wet season occurred under neutral-ENSO conditions, typically associated with near to slightly warmer-than-average temperatures. It ranks as the second warmest season in average temperature, following 2023 (the warmest on record) when El Niño conditions, associated with below-average rainfall, led to higher temperatures. In contrast, increased rainfall this year provided some cooling effects.

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06/Dec/2024

HIGHLIGHTS



SEASONAL STATISTICS

The wet season spans from May to November.

The season is bimodal, climatologically with the first peak in June and the second in October.

## **TEMPERATURE STATISTICS**



Anomalies: monthly values compared to their 30-year averages.

*Excessive heat days: days within a month where the maximum temperature exceeds the average temperature for its respective month.* 



Averages: based on the current 30-year averages for the climatological period of 1991-2020

- This season in Grand Cayman was **warmer** than average compared to the climatological average for the season. Last year's season (**2nd warmest on record**) remains warmer than this year's by 0.6°F.
- This season now ranks as the **3rd warmest Wet Season** on record, previously held in 2006.
- Overall, the seasonal average temperature has increased by about 0.8°F over the last 10 years.
- This wet season occurred under neutral-ENSO conditions, typically associated with near to slightly warmer-than-average temperatures. It ranks as the third warmest season in average temperature, following 2023 when El Niño conditions, associated with below-average rainfall, led to higher temperatures. In contrast, increased rainfall this year provided some cooling effects.

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06/Dec/2024

MONTHLY STATISTICS

HIGHLIGHTS



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### CONCLUSIONS

Currently, in the Cayman Islands, weather observations are being recorded from the Owen Roberts International Airport, Grand Cayman and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport, Cayman Brac.

#### FORECAST RESULTS

Rainfall totals and average temperatures were forecasted to be above average for this wet season.

In line with these predictions, Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac experienced above-average rainfall totals, with both islands accumulating more rainfall than the previous year.

Similarly, average temperatures in both islands were above average for the season, although not as warm as the previous year.

#### INFLUENCES

The Wet Season was forecasted to be influenced by neutral ENSO and La Niña phase conditions, alongside an extremely active 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season (driven by near-record-high sea surface temperatures and the expected La Niña phase conditions).

However, neutral ENSO conditions persisted throughout the season, with La Niña now forecasted to emerge by early 2025. The 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season was highly active, closely aligning with the predicted hurricane activity.

### 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season Average Prediction vs. Outcome

Named Storms:	23	Named Storms:	18	
Hurricanes:	11	Hurricanes:	11	
Major Hurricanes:	5	Major Hurricanes:	5	

A total of 3 tropical systems impacted the Cayman Islands, these being Hurricane Beryl, Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Rafael. The last time the islands were impacted by three tropical systems in a single year was in 2008 (Tropical Storm Fay, Hurricane Gustav & Hurricane Paloma).

Hurricane Rafael, was the most impactful bringing higher wind speeds and higher rainfall totals over a shorter period of time occurring over the Sister Islands.

### **IMPACTS**

The season broke several records: <u>GRAND CAYMAN</u>

- **5th wettest Wet Season** on record (previously held in 1979)
- 2nd wettest June on record (previously held in 1995)
- **3rd wettest September** on record (previously held in 1979)
- 2nd warmest Wet Season on record (previously held in 2019)
- Warmest May on record (previously held in 2020)
- Warmest August on record (previously held in 2023)

### CAYMAN BRAC

- 4th wettest Wet Season on record (previously held in 2007)
- Wettest November on record (previously held in 2020)
- 3rd warmest Wet Season on record (previously held in 2006)
- Warmest May on record (previously held in 2023)