

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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Announcement

Concerns exist for both long and short term drought over the Guianas, in particular northern Suriname. With Cuba and Antigua being relatively dry over the past few months, water resources should be monitored for long term drought, that can affect groundwater and large catchments, up until the end of the dry season at least. Water resources in the ABC Islands and north and south-east Belize should also be monitored over the possibility of developing drought.

Month at a Glance

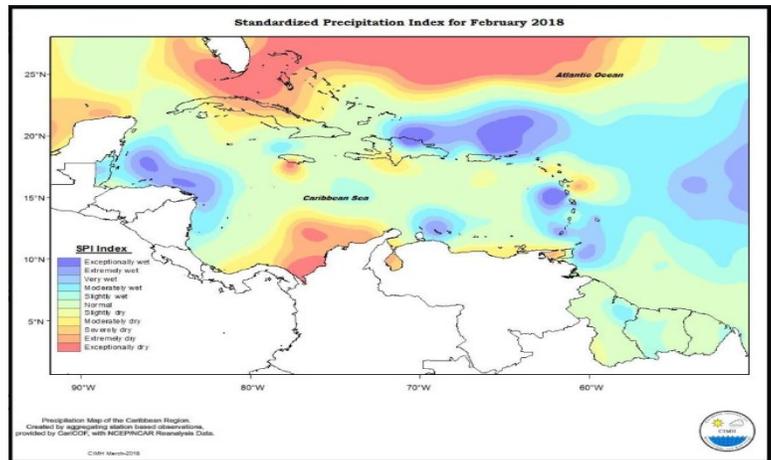
Mixed conditions were experienced in the islands of the eastern Caribbean for the month of February. Trinidad was slightly dry to slightly wet; Tobago and St. Lucia slight to moderately wet; Grenada extremely wet; Barbados very wet; St. Vincent and St. Maarten slightly wet; Martinique normal to very wet; normal to exceptionally wet from northeast to southwest; Guadeloupe slightly dry to slightly wet; Antigua slightly dry; and St. Kitts moderately dry. In the Guianas, Guyana ranged from slightly dry in southwest Guyana to moderately wet in the northeast, with both Suriname and French Guiana both being normal to slightly wet. Aruba was very wet while Curacao was extremely wet. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal apart from in the northeast that was slight to very wet. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from moderately dry in the south to exceptionally wet in northern Dominican Republic. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from exceptionally dry in the south to slightly wet in the northwest, but Grand Cayman was slightly dry. Conditions ranged from exceptionally dry in northern Bahamas to normal in east and western Cuba. Belize ranged from extremely wet in the west to slightly wet in the south and to moderately wet in the north.

Latest News

Drought conditions in Antigua Eased a bit <https://anumetservice.wordpress.com/2018/03/02/drought-eased-a-bit-for-antigua/>

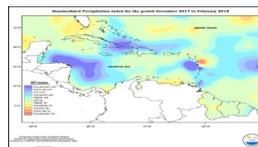
A Haiti without water, <https://dominantoday.com/dr/local/2018/02/03/a-haiti-without-water-poses-threat-to-dominican-republic-official/>

FAO assisting with irrigation and drought management in Jamaica, <http://jis.gov.jm/fao-assisting-with-irrigation-and-drought-management-systems/>

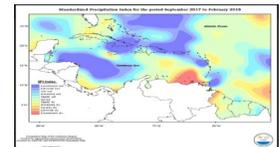


December-January-February

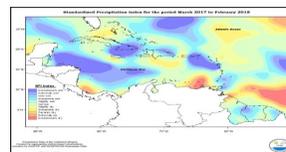
Apart from in Guadeloupe that ranged from moderately wet to moderately dry, rainfall in the eastern Caribbean islands was normal to above normal for the three month period. Trinidad ranged from slightly wet in the west to very wet in the east; Tobago very to extremely wet; Grenada, Barbados and St. Lucia moderately wet; Martinique from normal to the north to exceptionally wet in the south; Dominica exceptionally wet; Antigua and St. Maarten normal; and St. Kitts normal to slightly wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from slightly dry in western and central Guyana and western Suriname to moderately wet in eastern French Guiana. Aruba was normal to slightly dry, but Curacao normal to slightly wet. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal apart from the northeast that was slightly to moderately wet. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from normal in the south to extremely wet in the north. Jamaica was predominantly moderately wet apart from the extreme west that was slightly wet, but Grand Cayman was normal. Conditions in Cuba ranged from slightly dry in the west to exceptionally wet in the east, while northern Bahamas ranged from slightly dry to normal. Conditions in Belize ranged from extremely wet in the west to normal in the north and south.



DEC 2017- FEB 2018
SPI 3 MONTHS



SEP 2017- FEB 2018
SPI 6 MONTHS



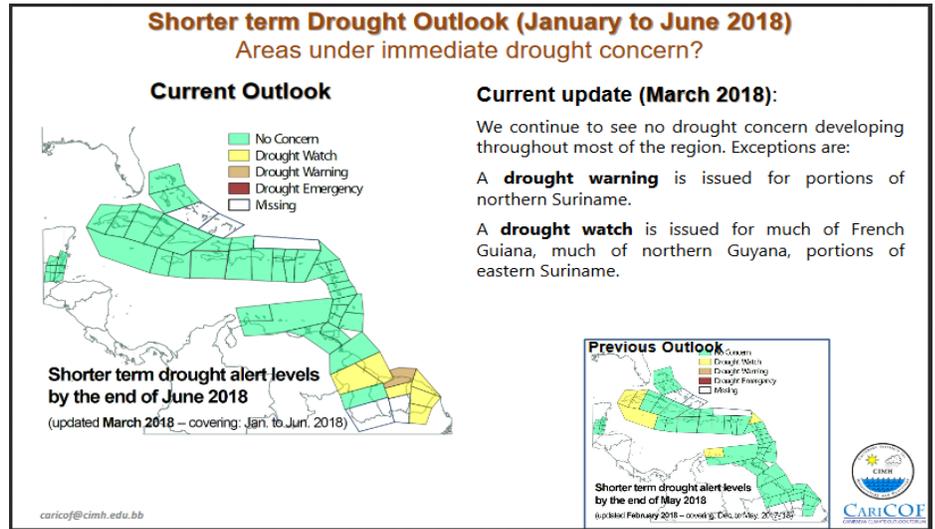
MAR 2017- FEB 2018
SPI 12 MONTHS

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.

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



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.....](#)

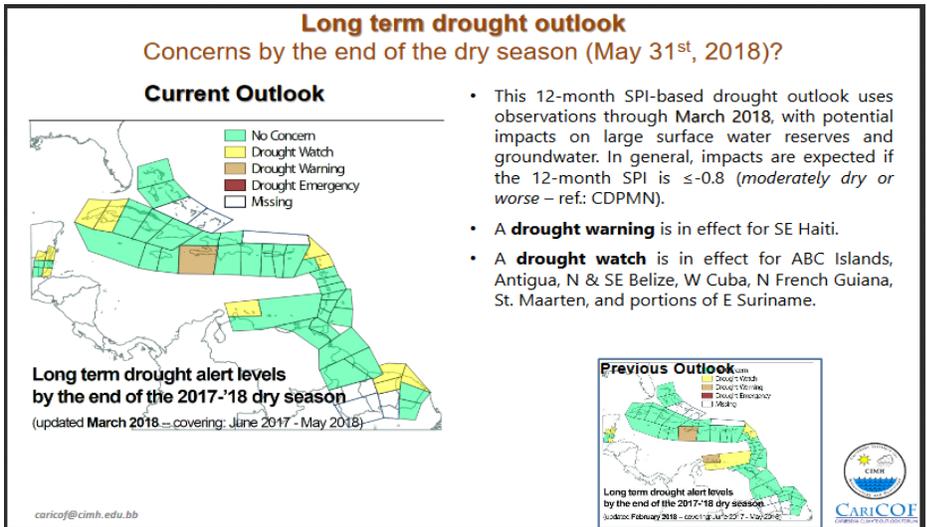
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)



Current Drought Situation

- Current drought situation (up to the end of February 2018):**
 - Copious rainfall during the wet season of 2017 and no large deficits having been built up since the start of the Caribbean dry season in most places.
 - Southeastern Haiti is under long term drought.
 - Short term drought is seen in NW Guyana.
- Shorter term drought situation (by end of June 2018):**
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in coastal portions of Suriname, and might possibly develop in other portions of the Guianas.
- Long term drought situation (by end of May 2018)**
 - Long term drought is evolving in Southeastern Haiti, and might possibly develop in ABC Is., Antigua, western Cuba, northern and south-eastern Belize, coastal portions of French Guiana, St Maarten, and portions of eastern Suriname.
 - We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.