

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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Announcement

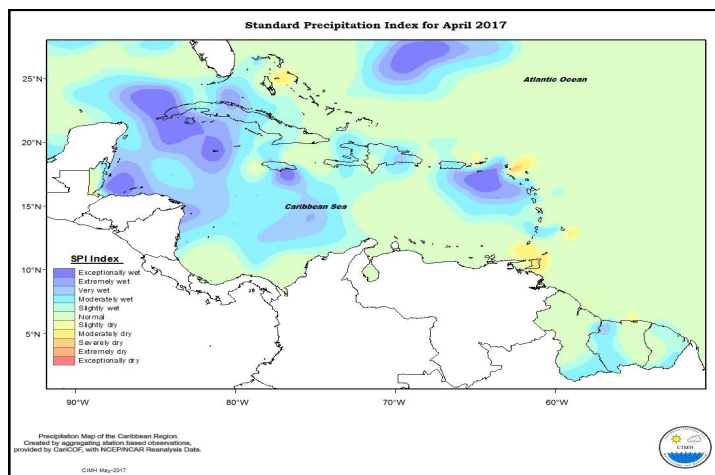
Rainfall amounts increased in parts of the Caribbean in April, eliminating short term drought concerns in those areas. Concerns over shorter drought that would develop by the end of July exist over various areas across the basin. However, the concern is such that monitoring of water resources and rains until July should be done. The CDPMN continues to monitor developments in the equatorial Pacific that may lead to the development of El Niño conditions in late 2017– updates will be made available.

Month at a Glance

Mixed conditions were experienced in the islands of the eastern Caribbean during April. Trinidad was predominantly moderately dry with severely dry conditions in the northeast; Tobago; Grenada slight to moderately dry; Barbados and St. Thomas normal; St. Vincent moderate to very wet; St. Lucia and Martinique normal to slightly wet; Dominica moderately wet; Guadeloupe normal to moderately wet; Antigua and St. Kitts slightly wet; Anguilla and St. Maarten moderately wet; St. Croix exceptionally wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from slightly dry near some coastal regions to moderately wet. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Puerto Rico was slight to moderately wet, but in the Dominican Republic conditions ranged from normal to very wet. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from normal in the west to very wet; but Grand Cayman exceptionally wet. Normal to extremely wet conditions were experienced in Cuba; while Belize ranged from severely dry in the west to very wet in the east. [Read more...](#)

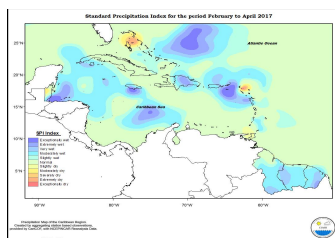
Latest News

The Wet/Hurricane Season Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF) will be held in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on May 31st, 2017. ([Click here to download the CariCOF Agenda](#))

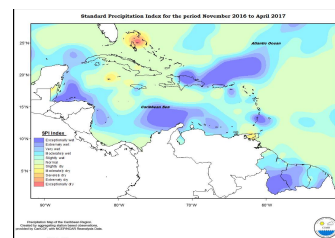


February-March-April Rainfall Summary

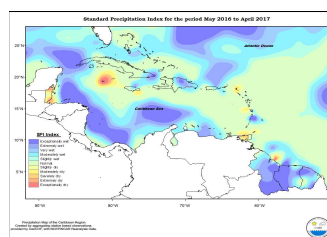
During the three month period, conditions in the islands of the eastern Caribbean were predominantly wet. Trinidad was slightly dry; Tobago and St. Vincent normal to slightly wet; Grenada, Barbados, St. Lucia, Martinique, Antigua, St. Kitts, Anguilla and St. Maarten normal; Guadeloupe normal to moderately wet; St. Croix exceptionally wet; St. Thomas very wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from normal near coastal areas to extremely wet in the interior. Both Aruba and Curacao were normal. Puerto Rico was moderate to very wet; but the Dominican Republic ranged from extremely wet in central areas to slightly wet in some coastal areas. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from normal to exceptionally wet; but apart from western areas, Cuba was predominantly normal. [Read more...](#)



FEB - APR 2017
SPI 3 MONTHS



NOV 2016 - APR 2017
SPI 6 MONTHS



MAY 2016 - APR 2017
SPI 12 MONTHS

The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation and Monitoring Network (CDPMN)

The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network was launched in January 2009 under the Caribbean Water Initiative (CARIWIN). The goal of CARIWIN was to increase the capacity of Caribbean countries to deliver equitable and sustainable Integrated Water resources Management (IWRM).

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 in demonstration phase, coordinates the CariCOF process. [Read more...](#)

For more information contact:

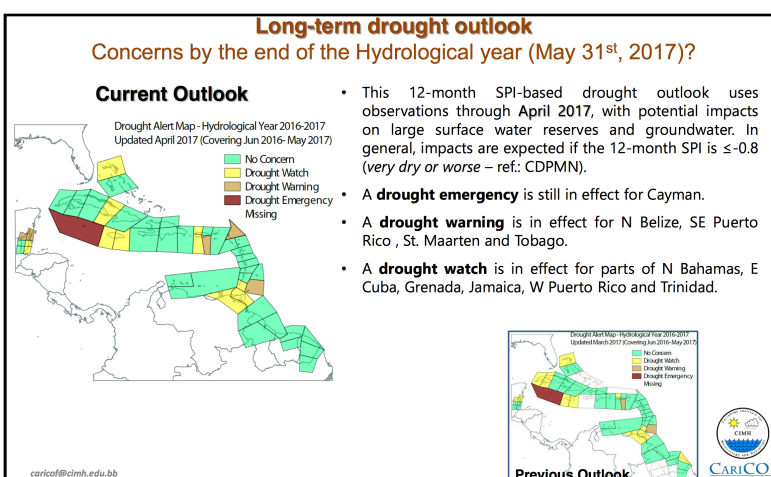
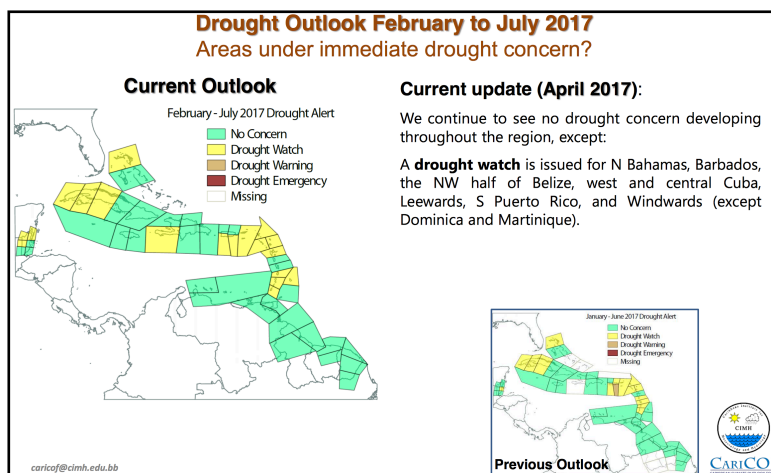
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#) (Click here)

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



Current Drought Situation

– After its driest year on record in 2016 (50% of avg. rainfall) and little rainfall since October 2016, Grand Cayman is in one of its worst long-term meteorological droughts on record. The island is also in short-term drought.

– Some other areas in the northern Caribbean are also facing potential drought concern, incl. N Belize, St. Maarten, SE Puerto Rico and Tobago, which are also in long-term drought.

• Shorter-term drought situation (until July 2017):

– We expect a shorter-term drought situation to likely improve in Cayman, but to possibly develop in N Bahamas, Barbados, the NW half of Belize, west and central Cuba, Leewards, S Puerto Rico, and Windwards (except Dominica and Martinique).

• Longer-term drought situation (until May 2017):

– Longer-term drought is very likely to persist in Cayman. It is evolving in N Belize, SE Puerto Rico, St. Maarten and Tobago, and is likely in some places in N Bahamas, E Cuba, Grenada, Jamaica, W Puerto Rico and Trinidad.

– Though dry season impacts may be quite similar to the usual, longer-term drought will not likely be a major concern by the end of the dry season in most other areas.

– ENSO neutral conditions expected during the next 3 months. These ENSO neutral conditions are not expected to worsen or improve drought during the dry season and the early wet season.

[Available for download]