

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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## Announcement

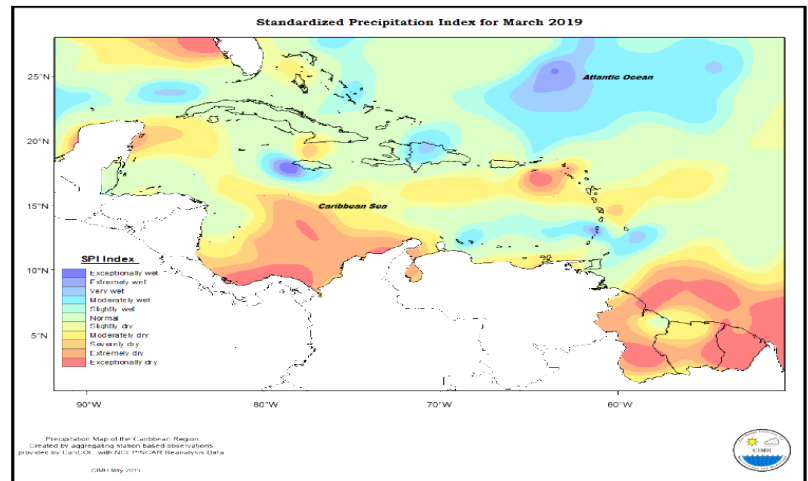
For short term drought that can impact agriculture, and flow in small rivers and streams, there is concern for most of the Caribbean except in the northwest in the vicinity of Cuba, The Bahamas, Jamaica and Cayman islands. For longer term drought that can impact groundwater, and large Reservoirs and rivers, concerns also extend to Jamaica and Cayman Islands. Most of the Caribbean should therefore closely monitor water resources and try to conserve as much as possible, at least until June/July.

## Month at a Glance

Conditions were mixed in the eastern Caribbean for the month of March. Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Antigua and St. Thomas were all normal or predominantly so; Barbados normal to slightly wet; St. Vincent very to extremely wet; Martinique slight to moderately dry; Dominica moderately dry; Guadeloupe slightly dry St. Kitts moderate to severely dry; St. Maarten severely dry; and St. Croix severe to extremely dry. Conditions in the Guiana's ranged from exceptionally dry in parts of southern Guyana and much of French Guiana to normal in northeastern Guyana. Aruba was slightly dry, but Curacao slight to moderately wet. Puerto Rico was normal to slightly dry, but Hispaniola ranged from normal in the west, south and east to very wet in north-western Dominican Republic. Jamaica was predominantly normal, with above normal rainfall in the southern and western extremities, and below normal in the northern extremities, but Grand Cayman was normal. Northern Bahamas was normal to moderately dry, while Belize was predominantly normal apart from the extreme north that was slightly dry and the extreme south that was slightly wet.

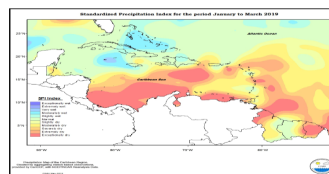
## Latest News

Drought affecting businesses in Guyana Region 9 ; Read more; <https://guyanatimesgy.com/region-9-drought-affecting-businesses-minister/>

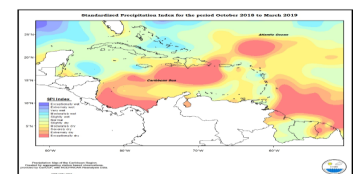


## January-February-March

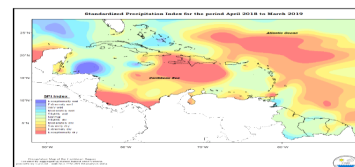
For the three month period, normal to below normal rainfall was experienced in the islands of the Caribbean. Trinidad was slight to severely dry; Tobago and Antigua moderately dry; Grenada slightly dry; Barbados severe to extremely dry; St. Vincent and Guadeloupe normal to slightly dry; St. Lucia and St. Kitts moderate to severely dry; Martinique extreme to exceptionally dry; St. Maarten severely dry; St. Croix severe to extremely dry; and St. Thomas normal. Conditions in the Guiana's ranged from exceptionally dry in northern Guyana and much of French Guiana to normal in northeastern and southern Guyana and western Suriname. Aruba was exceptionally dry, but Curacao moderately dry. Puerto was moderately dry to normal from northwest to southeast, but Hispaniola from slightly wet in the north to severely dry in eastern Dominican Republic and to slightly dry in southwest Haiti. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from moderately wet in the west to slightly dry in the north, but Grand Cayman very wet. Northern Bahamas was normal to moderately wet and Belize from severely dry in the east to normal to the north and south.



**JAN2019- MAR2019**  
**SPI 3 MONTHS**



**OCT2018- MAR 2019**  
**SPI 6 MONTHS**



**APR2018- MAR2019**  
**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.....](#)

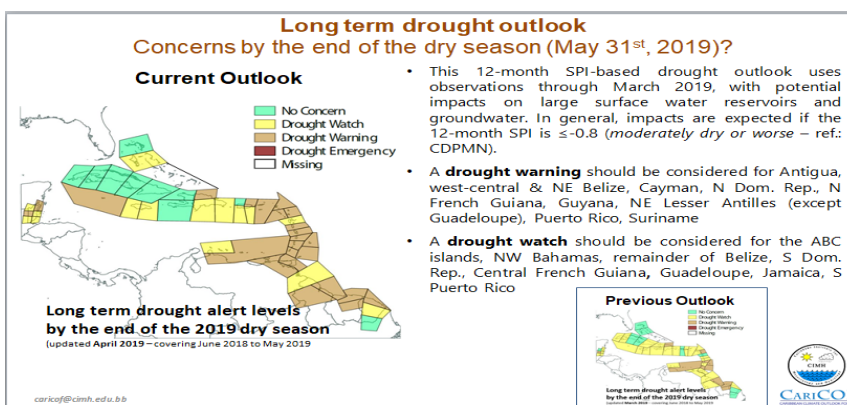
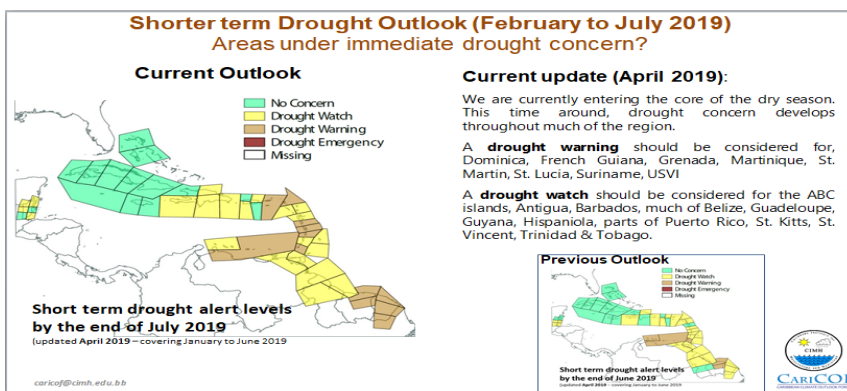
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

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



## Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of March 2019):**
  - Barbados, Martinique, St. Lucia, USVI have seen long term drought developing.
  - Shorter term drought is seen in northern St. Kitts.

### Shorter term drought situation (by end of July 2019):

- Shorter term drought is evolving in Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, Martinique, St. Martin, St. Lucia, Suriname, USVI.
- Shorter term drought might possibly develop in the ABC islands, Antigua, Barbados, Much of Belize, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Hispaniola, parts of Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago.

### Long term drought situation (by end of May 2019):

- A weak El Nino is expected to contribute to reduced rainfall up until May.
- Long term drought is evolving in Antigua, west-central and NE Belize, Cayman, N Dom Rep, N French Guiana, Guyana, NE Lesser Antilles (except Guadeloupe), Puerto Rico, Suriname.
- Long term drought might possibly develop in the ABC islands, NW Bahamas, remainder of Belize, S Dom Rep, central French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, S Puerto Rico.

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

**Drought outlook available for download [here](#)**