

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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## Announcement

Below normal rainfall continued in parts of the region already with concerns over drought, including over Belize and Barbados. There are areas of concern over short term drought by end of January 2020 that can impact agriculture, streams and small rivers, particularly in the vicinity of Belize and Cayman Islands. There is wider concern over long term drought by the end of November 2019 that can impact ground water and large rivers, particularly in Belize, the Guiana's (northern Suriname and French Guiana) and some islands of the eastern Caribbean (Barbados, Dominica and St. Kitts.)

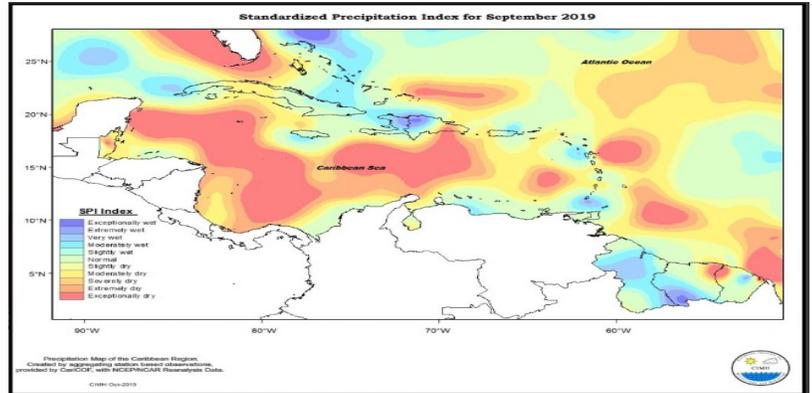
## Month at a Glance

The islands of the eastern Caribbean experienced mixed conditions throughout the month of September. Trinidad, Antigua and St. Kitts were predominantly normal with some slightly wet areas ; Tobago moderately wet;; Grenada moderate to very wet from north to south; Barbados, St. Maarten, Anguilla and St. Croix slight to moderately dry; St. Vincent moderately dry; St Lucia and Dominica normal to slightly dry; Martinique was normal to severely dry from south to north; Guadeloupe from moderately wet in the west to extremely dry in the east;; and St. Thomas normal. Curacao was predominantly normal. In the Guiana's, conditions ranged from exceptionally wet in south-western Suriname to exceptionally dry at the northern Suriname/French Guiana border, with portions of north central Guyana being very wet and northern French Guiana extremely wet. Puerto Rico ranged from moderately wet in the east to moderately dry in the west. south. [Read more;](#)

## Latest News

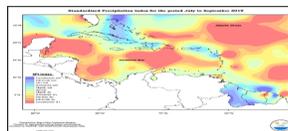
Drought lands 'major blow' , but Caricom and Belize sugar will be protected, [Read more;](https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2019/10/07/drought-lands-major-blow-but-caricom-and-belize-sugar-will-be-protected/)  
<https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2019/10/07/drought-lands-major-blow-but-caricom-and-belize-sugar-will-be-protected/>

In Barbados well sources in St Lucy impacted by extreme drought like conditions; <https://barbadostoday.bb/2019/10/30/bwa-well-sources-in-st-lucy->

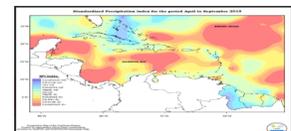


## July-August-September

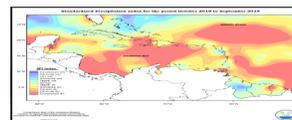
The islands of the eastern Caribbean experienced mixed conditions throughout the three month period .Trinidad was normal to severely dry from the extreme north east to the south west; Tobago and St Maarten slightly wet;, Grenada normal; Barbados moderate to extremely dry; St Vincent moderate to severely dry; St Lucia slight to moderately dry; Martinique from normal in the south to severely dry in the extreme northern areas; Dominica was predominantly normal, with slight to moderately dry conditions in the extreme southern areas; Guadeloupe was exceptionally dry to very wet from east to west; Antigua slight to moderately wet; St. Kitts predominantly normal except for the southern areas which were slightly wet; St. Croix moderately wet; and St. Thomas very wet. Curacao was normal to slightly dry. In the Guiana's, conditions ranged from exceptionally wet in south-western Guyana, southern border areas of Guyana and Suriname, and northern French Guiana to exceptionally dry at the northern Suriname/French Guiana border. Puerto Rico was normal to moderately wet from west to east. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from very wet at the northern Haiti/Dominican Republic border to exceptionally dry in eastern Dominican Republic. Jamaica was normal, whereas Grand Cayman ranged from extreme to exceptionally dry from east to west. Cuba ranged from normal in west central areas to moderately wet in the west and to very wet in eastern areas, while in the Bahamas conditions were slight to exceptionally wet. Conditions in Belize ranged from exceptionally dry in central areas to moderately dry in the south and to extremely dry in the north.



[JUL 2019- SEP 2019  
SPI 3 MONTHS](#)



[APR 2019- SEP 2019  
SPI 6 MONTHS](#)



[OCT2018- SEP 2019  
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.....](#)

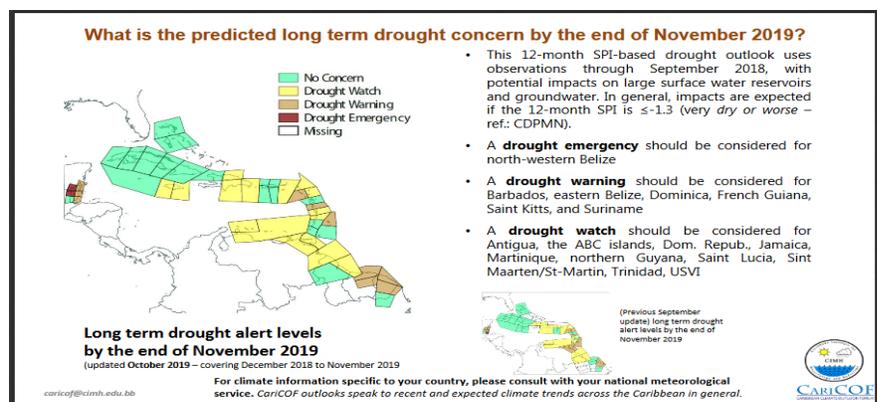
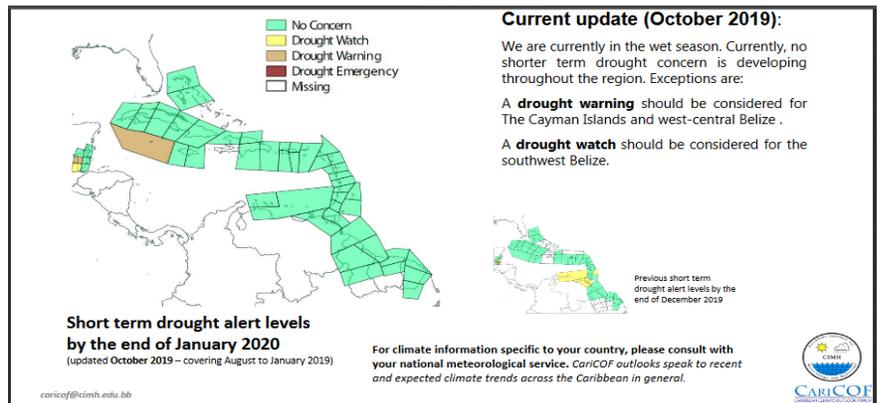
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

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



## Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of September 2019):**
  - Severe (or worse ) shorter term drought has developed in Barbados, much of Belize, Eastern Hispaniola, St Vincent, Trinidad.
  - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Aruba, Barbados ,Cayman, Eastern Cuba, parts of French Guiana, eastern, southern and western most Hispaniola, Martinique, western Puerto Rico, St Barth, St Thomas, Trinidad.
- **Shorter term drought situation (by end of January 2020):**
  - Shorter term drought is evolving in the Cayman islands and west central Belize.
  - Shorter term drought might possibly continue in southwest Belize.
- **Long term drought situation (by end of November 2019):**
  - Long term drought is of immediate concern in northwestern Belize.
  - Long term drought is evolving in Barbados, eastern Belize, Dominica, French Guiana, St. Kitts and Suriname.
  - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in the ABC islands, Antigua, Dom Rep, Jamaica, Martinique, Northern Guyana, Saint Lucia, Sint Maarten/ St-Martin, Trinidad, USVI.
  - Areas ending up in long term drought may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the upcoming dry season.

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

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