

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of March 2020

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Participating territories

Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St-Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and the US Virgin Islands



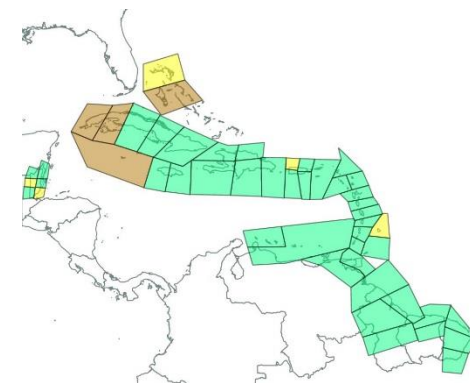
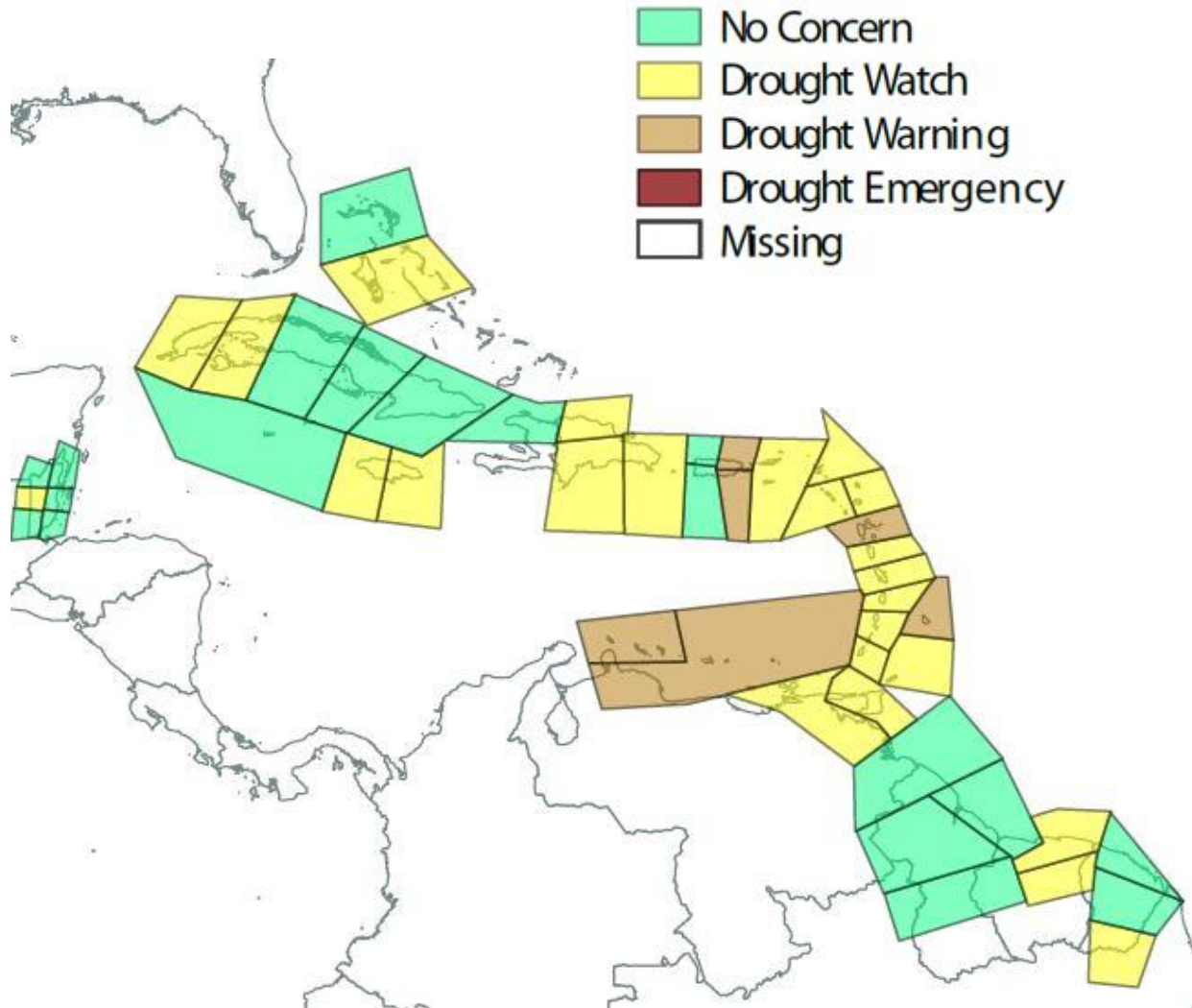
What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of March 2020?

Current update (December 2019):

We are currently entering the dry season. Currently, no shorter term drought concern is developing throughout the region. Exceptions are:

A **drought warning** should be considered for the ABC islands, Barbados, Guadeloupe, and eastern Puerto Rico.

A **drought watch** should be considered for northwestern Bahamas, west-central Belize, western Cuba, Dominican Republic, Southern French Guiana, Jamaica, the Lesser Antilles (except Guadeloupe and Barbados), and Suriname, USVI



Previous short term drought alert levels by the end of February 2020

Short term drought alert levels by the end of March 2020

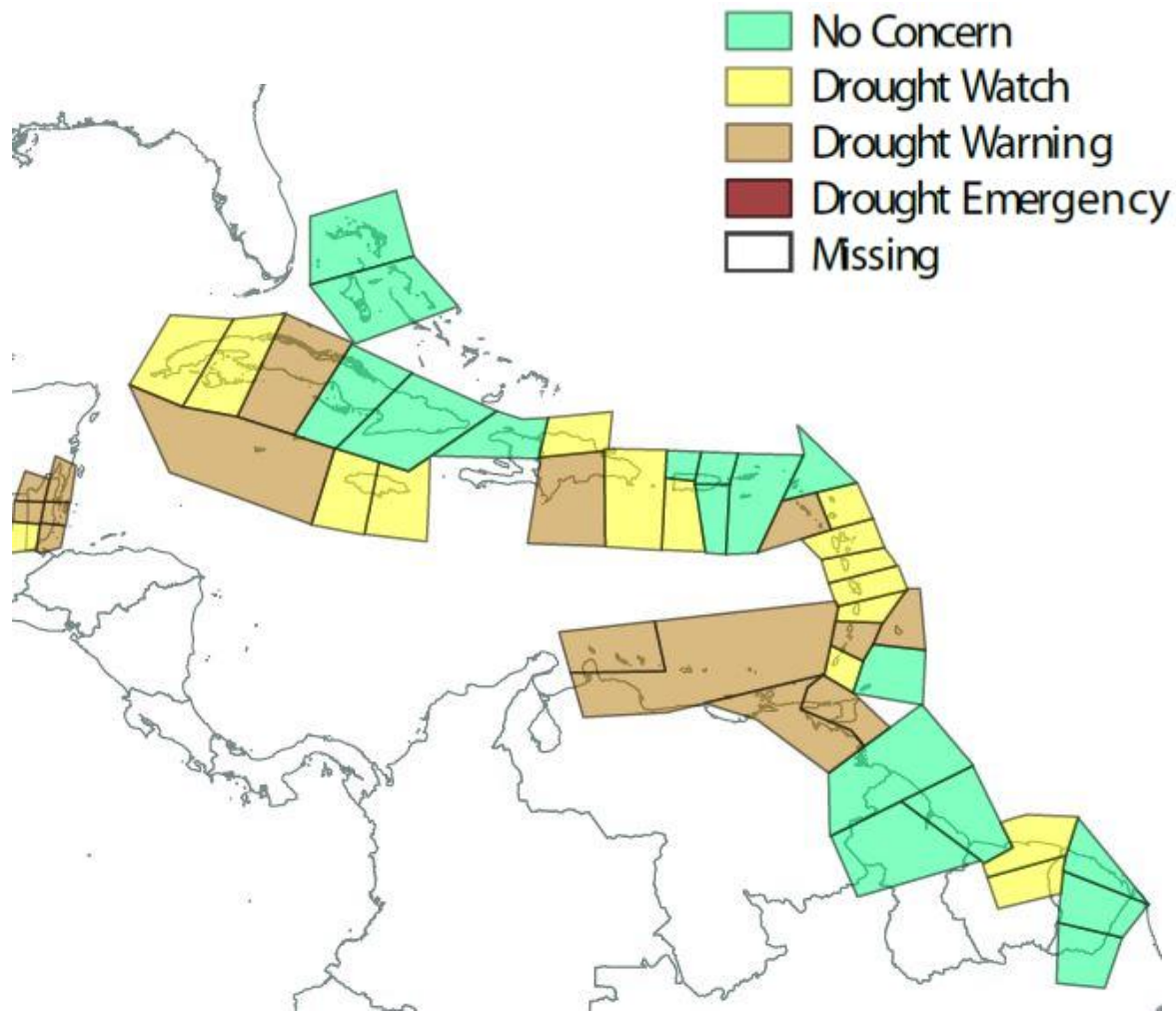
(updated December 2019 – covering October 2019 to March 2020)

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For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. *CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.*



What is the predicted long term drought concern by the end of May 2020?



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through November 2019, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -0.8 (*moderately dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought warning** should be considered for the ABC islands, Barbados, most of Belize, Cayman, central Cuba, southern Dominican Republic, St. Kitts, St. Vincent, and Trinidad.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for Antigua, southwest Belize, western Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Jamaica, Martinique, southwest Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, and Suriname.

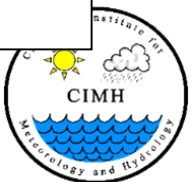
Long term drought alert levels by the end of May 2020

(updated December 2019 – covering June 2019 to May 2020)

Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of November 2019): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in northern Bahamas, Belize, Guadeloupe, and Sint Maarten
 - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Barbados, western Cuba, eastern Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Saint Vincent
 - Shorter term drought situation (by the end of March 2020):
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in ABC islands, Barbados, Guadeloupe, and eastern Puerto Rico
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop or continue in northwestern Bahamas, west-central Belize, western Cuba, Dominican Republic, Southern French, Guiana, Jamaica, the Lesser Antilles (except Guadeloupe and Barbados), and Suriname, USVI.
 - Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2020):
 - Long term drought is evolving in the ABC islands, Barbados, most of Belize, Cayman, central Cuba, southern Dominican Republic, St. Kitts, St. Vincent, and Trinidad.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in Antigua, southwest Belize, western Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Jamaica, Martinique, southwest Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, and Suriname.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the dry season.
- * We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.**

**CONTINUE TO MONITOR &
CONSERVE WATER !!**



ALERT LEVEL	MEANING	ACTION LEVEL
NO CONCERN	No drought concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ monitor resources ✓ update and ratify management plans ✓ public awareness campaigns ✓ upgrade infrastructure
DROUGHT WATCH	Drought possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ keep updated ✓ protect resources and conserve water ✓ implement management plans ✓ response training ✓ monitor and repair infrastructure
DROUGHT WARNING	Drought evolving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ protect resources ✓ conserve and recycle water ✓ implement management plans ✓ release public service announcements ✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades ✓ report impacts
DROUGHT EMERGENCY	Drought of immediate concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ release public service announcements ✓ implement management and response plans ✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling ✓ enforce resource protection ✓ repair infrastructure ✓ report impacts



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