

CariCOF Drought Outlooks

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Short term drought concerns by the end of August 2020
Long term drought concerns by the end of November 2020

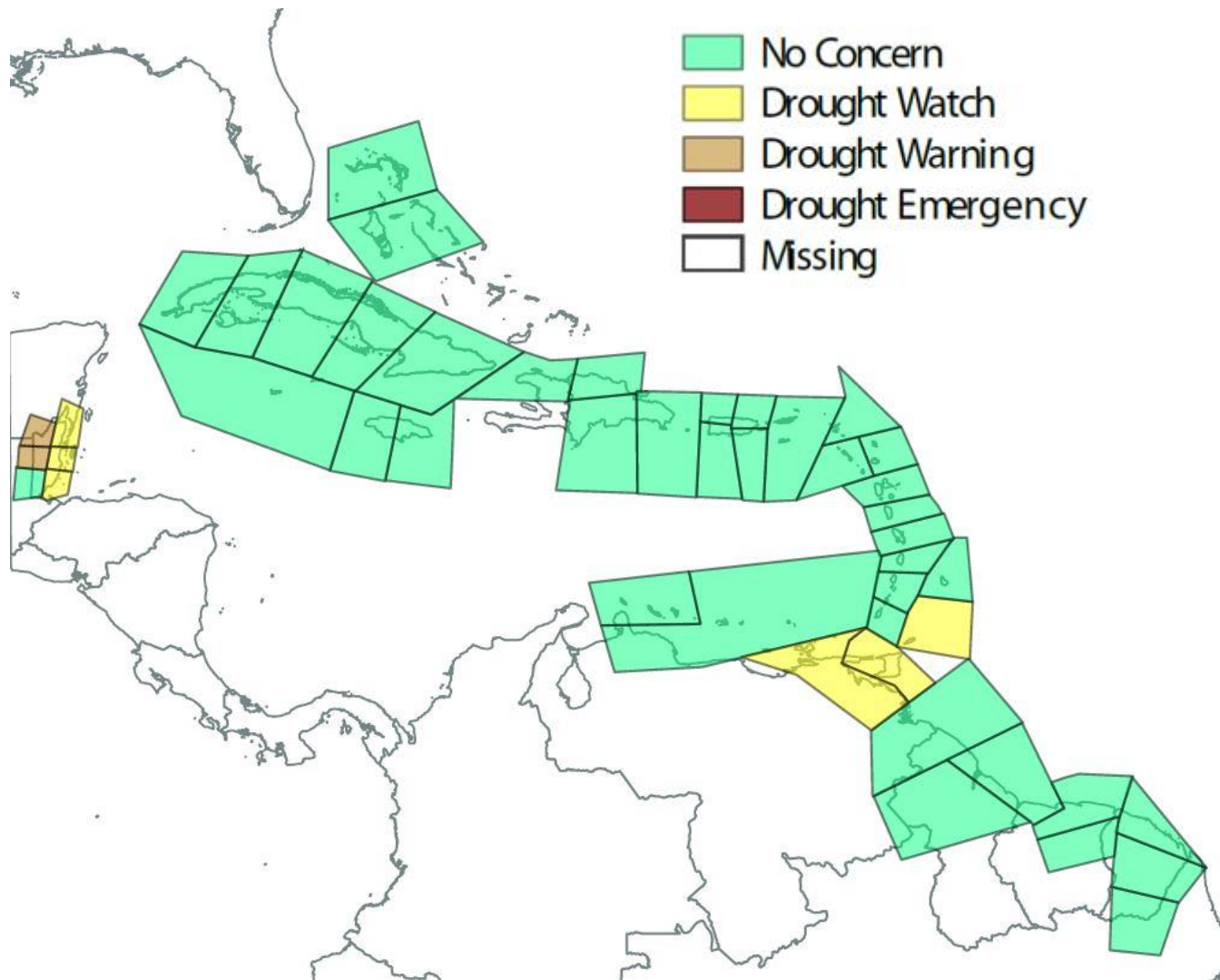
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Participating territories

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 August 2020?



Suggested alert levels for short term drought at the end of August 2020

(updated May 2020 – covering March to August 2020)

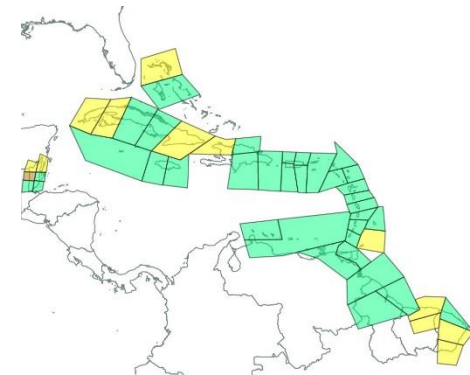
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Current update (May 2020):

We are currently entering the wet season.

This time around, there is little drought concern throughout much of the region.

- A **drought warning** should be considered for northwest and west-central Belize.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for eastern Belize, and Trinidad and Tobago.



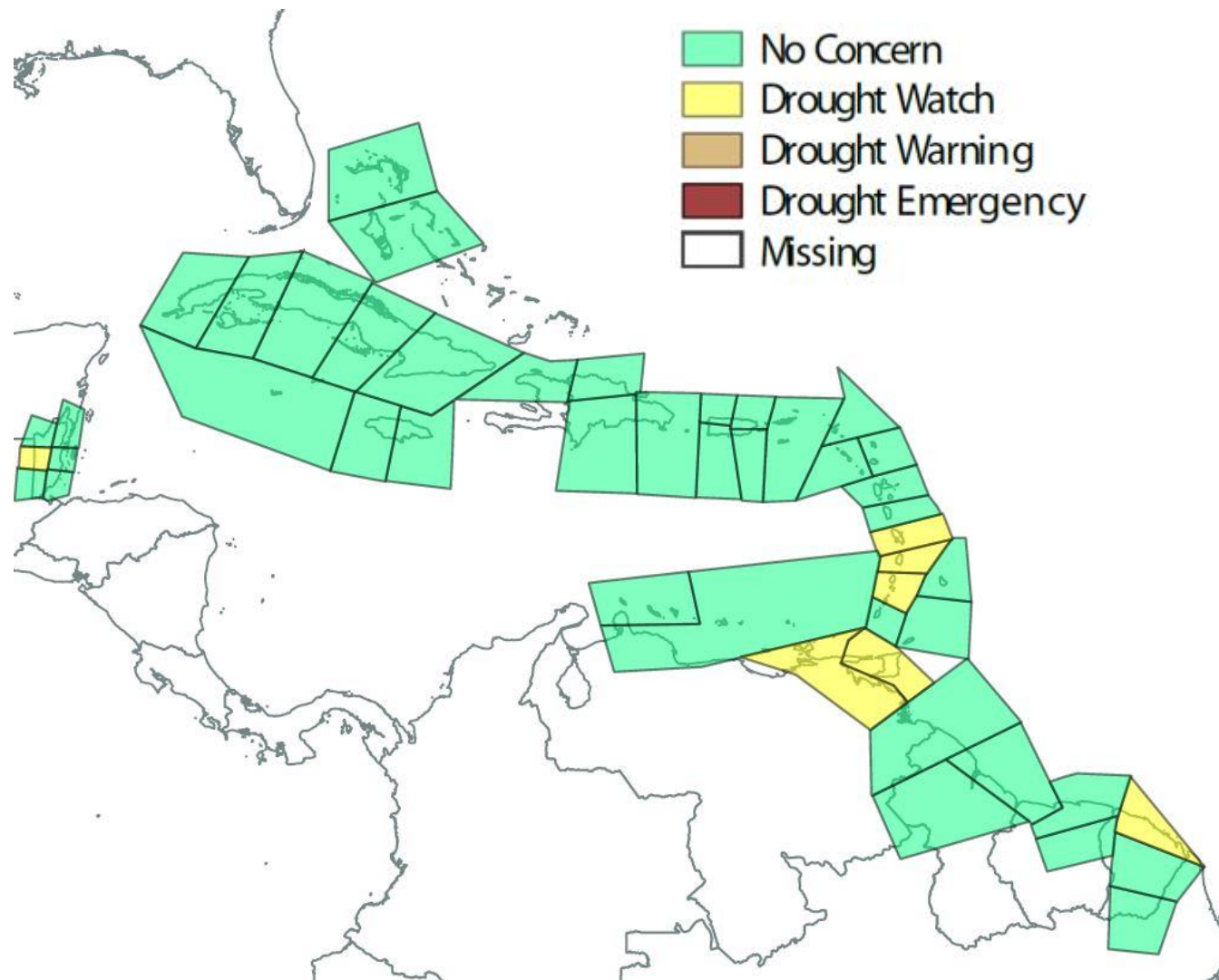
Previous short term drought alert levels by the end of July 2020

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.*



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



Current update (May 2020):

- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through April 2019, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -1.3 (*very dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought watch** should be considered for west-central Belize, northern French Guiana, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, and Trinidad.

Suggested alert levels for long term drought at the end of November 2020

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

Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (at the end of April 2020): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in the Central and Southeastern Bahamas, northern Belize, the Cayman Islands, much of Cuba, northern and western Guyana, Hispaniola, Martinique, southern Saint Lucia, southeastern Suriname, and western Trinidad.
 - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Aruba, the northernmost and Southeastern Bahamas, Barbados, much of Belize, Grand Cayman, northern Cuba, southernmost and central Dominican Rep., most of northwestern-most French Guiana, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad, and St. Croix.
 - Shorter term drought situation (by the end of August 2020):
 - **Shorter term drought is evolving** in northwest and west-central Belize.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop or continue in the ABC islands, eastern Belize, and Trinidad and Tobago.
 - Long term drought situation (by the end of November 2020):
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in west-central Belize, northern French Guiana, Martinique, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, and Trinidad.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of November may experience **water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater that are lower than usual, which would become a concern for the 2020-21 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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