

# CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of April 2021

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## Participating territories

Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, 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

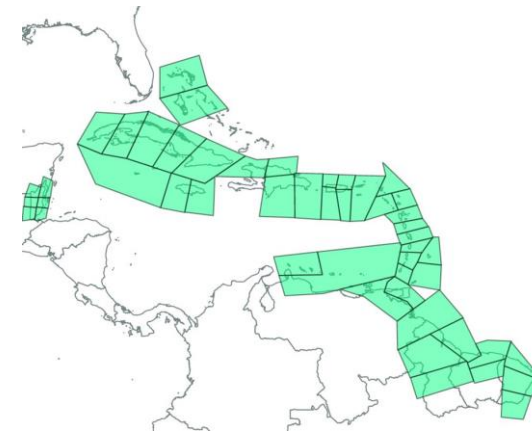
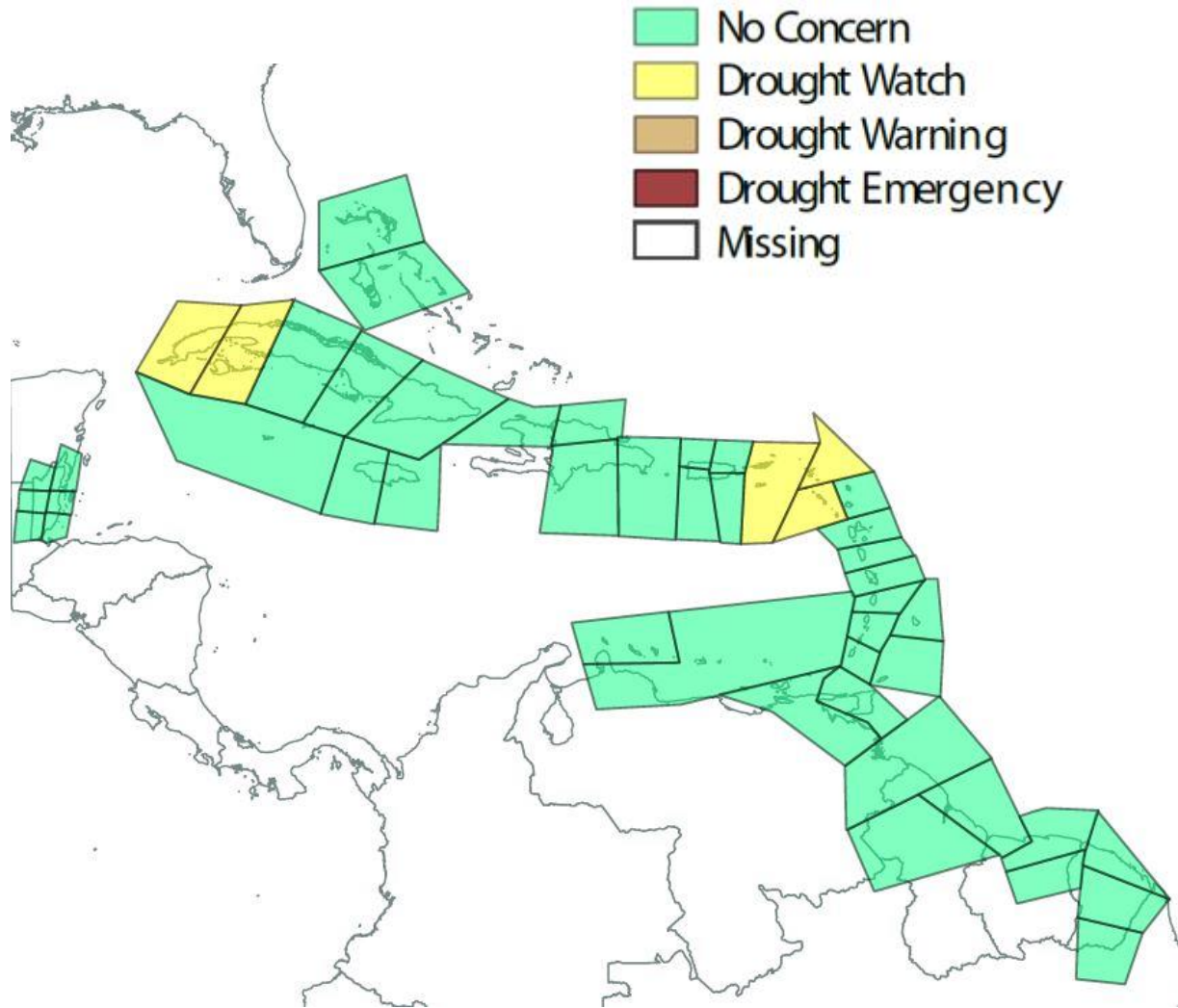


# What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of April 2021?

## Current update (January 2021):

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

- A **drought watch** should be considered for Western Cuba, St. Kitts, Sint Maarten, and the US Virgin Islands.



## Short term drought alert levels by the end of April 2021

(updated January 2021 – covering November 2020 to April 2021)

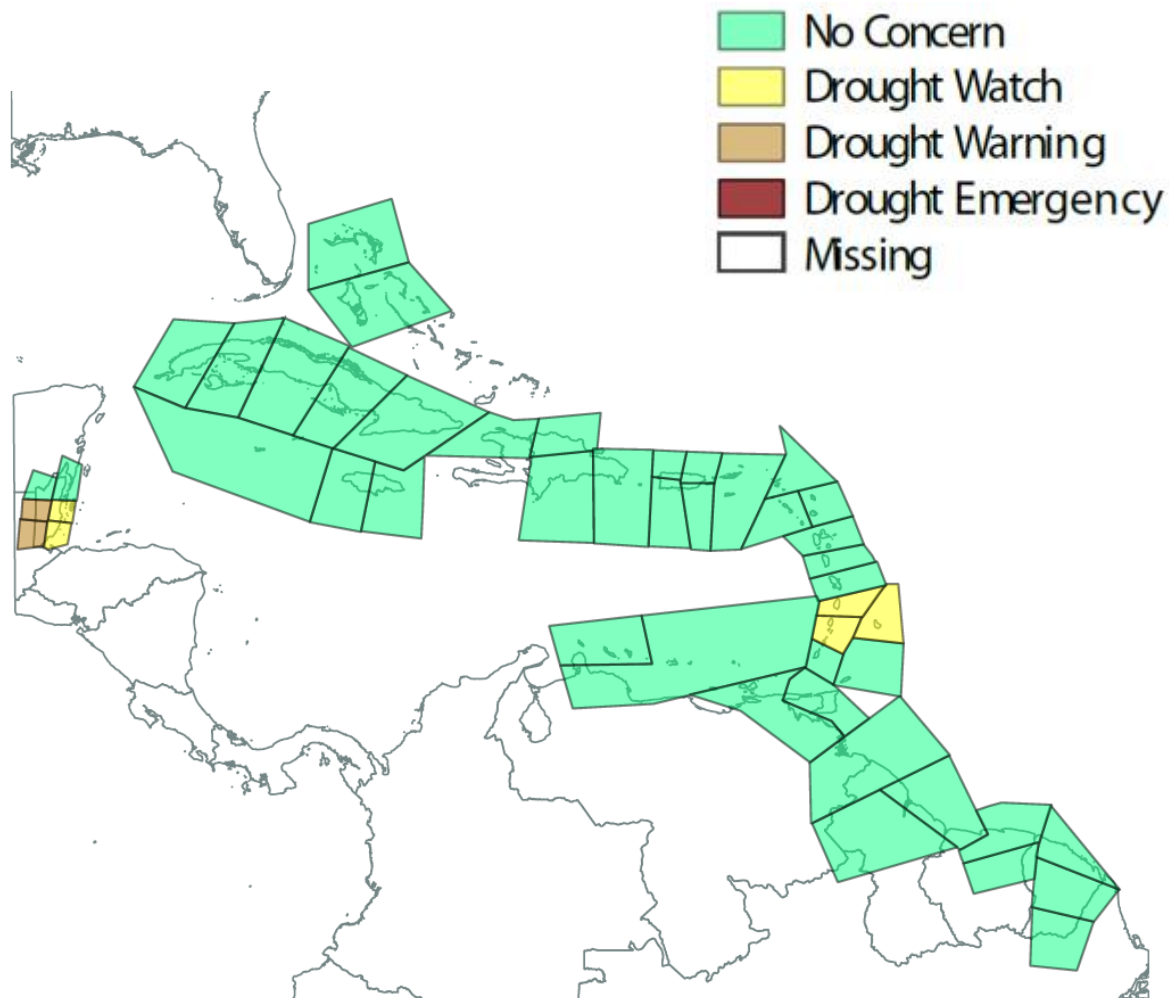
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For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. *CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.*



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# What is the predicted long term drought concern by the end of May 2021?



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through December 2020, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is  $\leq -0.8$  (*moderately dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought warning** should be considered for southwest and western Belize.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for Barbados, eastern and southeast Belize, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent.

## Long term drought alert levels by the end of May 2021

(updated January 2020 – covering June 2020 to May 2021)

# Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of December 2020): *(more information [here](#))*
  - Moderate (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in southernmost parts of the Dominican Republic.
  - Moderate (or worse) long term drought has developed in southwestern Belize, along the southern coastline of the Dominican Republic, along the Windward Islands and, locally, on the northcoast of French Guiana.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of April 2021):
  - Short term drought might possibly develop or continue in Western Cuba, St. Kitts, Sint Maarten, and the US Virgin Islands.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2021):
  - Long term drought is evolving in southwest and western Belize.
  - Long term drought might possibly develop in Barbados, eastern and southeast Belize, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent.
  - 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"> <li>✓ <b>monitor resources</b></li> <li>✓ update and ratify management plans</li> <li>✓ public awareness campaigns</li> <li>✓ upgrade infrastructure</li> </ul>
DROUGHT WATCH	Drought possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>keep updated</b></li> <li>✓ protect resources and conserve water</li> <li>✓ implement management plans</li> <li>✓ response training</li> <li>✓ monitor and repair infrastructure</li> </ul>
DROUGHT WARNING	Drought evolving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>protect resources</b></li> <li>✓ conserve and recycle water</li> <li>✓ implement management plans</li> <li>✓ release public service announcements</li> <li>✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades</li> <li>✓ report impacts</li> </ul>
DROUGHT EMERGENCY	Drought of immediate concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>release public service announcements</b></li> <li>✓ implement management and response plans</li> <li>✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling</li> <li>✓ enforce resource protection</li> <li>✓ repair infrastructure</li> <li>✓ report impacts</li> </ul>



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