

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

February 2022 | Volume VIII | ISSUE 9

Announcement

Conditions in December 2021 continued the concerns over drought in many parts of the Caribbean, particularly countries east of Haiti. Concerns over short term drought that can impact soil moisture availability, streams and small rivers by the end of April 2022 exist in western Cuba, Antigua, Guadeloupe and Martinique. The greatest concerns over long term drought that can negatively impact large rivers and reservoirs, and groundwater by the end of May 2022, exist over western Cuba, the US Virgin Islands, Guadeloupe, Dominica and Martinique. Interests in Belize, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and the islands of the eastern Caribbean should also monitor their water resources, as there is some likelihood for significant, impactful drying throughout the dry season.

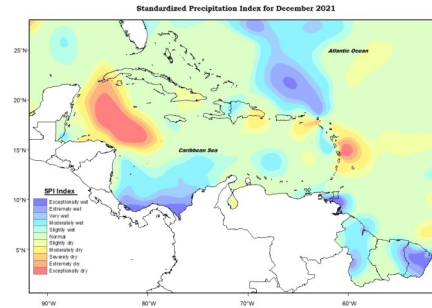
Month at a Glance

Mixed conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of December. Trinidad was exceptionally wet in the south to normal in the north; Tobago and Grenada normal; Barbados, St Vincent and St Croix moderately dry; Saint Lucia and Antigua slight to moderately dry; Martinique exceptionally dry in the south-east to normal in the northwest; Dominica predominantly normal ranging to slightly wet in the south and moderately dry in the coastal northeast; Guadeloupe normal in western areas to moderately dry in the east; St Kitts and Anguilla moderately wet to normal; St Maarten severely dry to normal and St Thomas predominantly normal to slightly dry in the south. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from normal to exceptionally wet. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal with slightly wet conditions in the extreme north. Read more; <https://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/spi-monitor-december-2021/>

Latest News

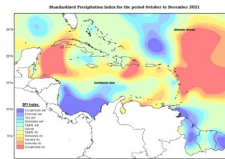
Near Record-Breaking dry year for Antigua and Barbuda, Read more; <https://anumetservice.tumblr.com/>

GG details plans to address water problems in Antigua and Barbuda, Read more; <https://antiguanewsroom.com/gg-details-plans-to-address-water-problem-in-antigua-and-barbuda/>

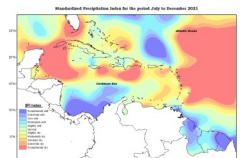


October-November-December

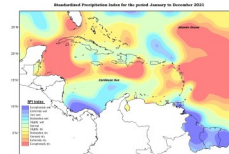
Conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal to below normal during the three month period. Trinidad ranged from exceptionally wet in the south to moderately dry on the northern border; Tobago normal to moderately dry; Grenada normal; Barbados severely dry in the extreme south to predominantly exceptionally dry; St Vincent predominantly moderately dry to severely dry in the north-east; Saint Lucia moderate to extremely dry; Martinique extremely dry in the extreme southeast to normal in the northwest; Dominica normal in the extreme south to extremely dry in the northeast; Guadeloupe moderate to exceptionally dry; Antigua exceptionally dry; St Kitts and St Thomas moderate to slightly dry; St Maarten slightly dry to normal; Anguilla normal to slightly wet and St Croix severely dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately dry to exceptionally wet. Aruba slightly dry to normal and Curacao was normal. Puerto Rico ranged from moderately dry in extreme southern areas to normal in the north. Hispaniola was predominantly normal to exceptionally dry in east central Dominican Republic. Jamaica ranged from moderately dry in the extreme southeast to moderately wet in the northwest. Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba ranged from exceptionally dry in the extreme southwest to moderately wet in the extreme southeast. Northern Bahamas ranged from slightly wet to normal and Belize ranged from extremely dry in the west to normal in the east.



OCT 2021 - DEC 2021
SPI 3 MONTHS



JUL 2021 - DEC 2021
SPI 6 MONTHS



JAN 2021 - DEC 2021
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.....](#)

For more information contact:

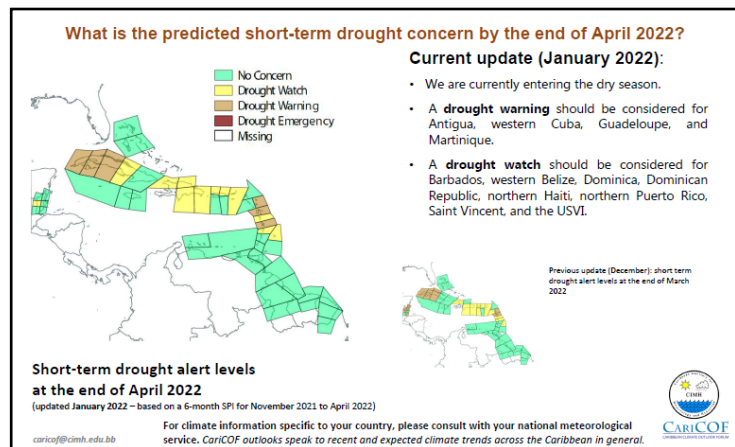
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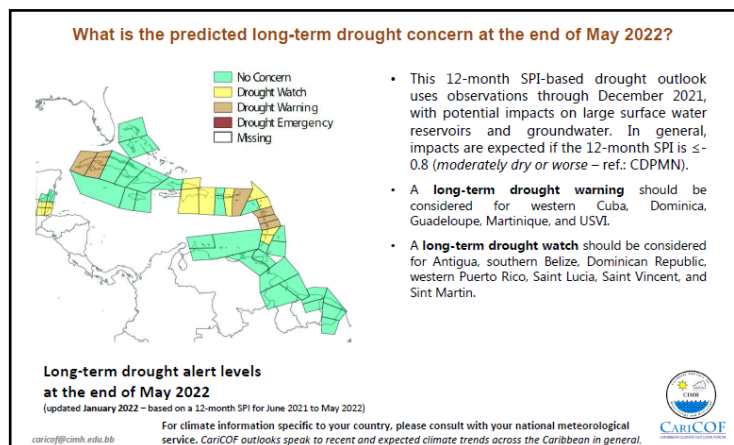
CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of April 2022



- Short-term drought (expected situation by the end of April 2022):**
 - Short term drought is evolving in Antigua, western Cuba, Guadeloupe, and Martinique.
 - Short term drought might possibly develop or continue in Barbados, western Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, northern Haiti, northern Puerto Rico, Saint Vincent, and the USVI.

Map of long-term drought by the end of May 2022



- Long-term drought (expected situation by the end of May 2022):**
 - Long term drought is evolving in western Cuba, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and USVI.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in Antigua, southern Belize, Dominican Republic, western Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, and Sint Martin.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May may experience lower than usual water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater at that time.

"We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring their environment for signs of drought, and look out for our monthly updates"

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)