



Email: dmsclimate@dominica.gov.dm

Website: www.weather.gov.dm

Tel: (767) 6184490/ 445 7849/ 6184494

Seasonal Forecast: May to July 2022 (MJJ)

Date of Issue: May 3rd 2022

➤ Forecast:

Rainfall

- There is medium confidence that rainfall accumulation into the beginning of the wet season is likely to be below normal. Possible delayed start to the wet season
- Fewer wet days and wet spells is highly likely which could lead to slow recharge of soil moisture
- There is little concern for extreme wet spells which could result in flash floods and only one is likely to occur
- At most, two 7-day dry spells are possible during the season and one 10-day dry spell.
- Concern remains for possible drought-like conditions in parts of the country by the end of July 2022.
- August to October is likely to be as wet as or even wetter than usual

Temperature

- May marks the official start of the Caribbean Heat Season as temperatures become progressively warmer.
- Significant increase in temperatures is not likely across Dominica, this period.
- Night-time minimum temperatures are likely to be as cool as usual.
- Day-time temperatures are likely to be cooler than usual, particularly in eastern regions
- Bush fire potential is expected to peak in May.

➤ Influencing Factors

1. El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

Recent observations: Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in the eastern Pacific remain below normal (-1.0°C); La Niña persists.

Model forecast and guidance: The models forecast indicate that La Niña conditions in MJJ (70-60% confidence) may persist into ASO (50-45% confidence)

Expected impacts on rainfall and temperatures: La Niña tilts the odds to more rainfall activity during the wet season, though the models suggest the opposite during its start. Some other atmospheric signal may be driving this forecast.

2. Climate conditions in the Tropical North Atlantic (TNA) and the Caribbean Sea

Recent observations: Warmer than usual SSTs persisted to 1°C above average around the northern section of the Caribbean Sea and in the sub-tropical portions of the North Atlantic in March. Elsewhere in the Caribbean SSTs were near normal.

Expected conditions: Models are forecasting SST to maintain anomalously warm (0.5-1°C above average) around the Caribbean and in the sub-tropical North Atlantic.

Expected impacts: Warm SSTs in and around the Caribbean tend to contribute to higher air temperatures with above-average humidity, seasonal rainfall totals and an increased frequency of extreme rainfall.

See table below with Climatological Normal/ Averages

May-June-July		
CLIMATOLOGICAL NORMAL (30YEARS)		
RAINFALL	CANEFIELD AIRPORT	DOUGLAS-CHARLES AIRPORT
Normal	333.6 to 593.2mm	349.9 to 636.1mm
Wet Days Normal	29 to 45 days	41 to 64 days
7-Day Dry Spells Normal	n/a	0 to 3
TEMPERATURE (15YRS AVERAGES)		
Average Maximum	31.8°C to 32.4°C	29.8°C to 30.2°C
Average Mean	27.9°C to 28.5°C	26.7°C to 27.2°C
Average Minimum	24.0°C to 24.5°C	23.7°C to 24.1°C