

# CariCOF Drought Outlook

## By the end of February 2023

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### Participating territories

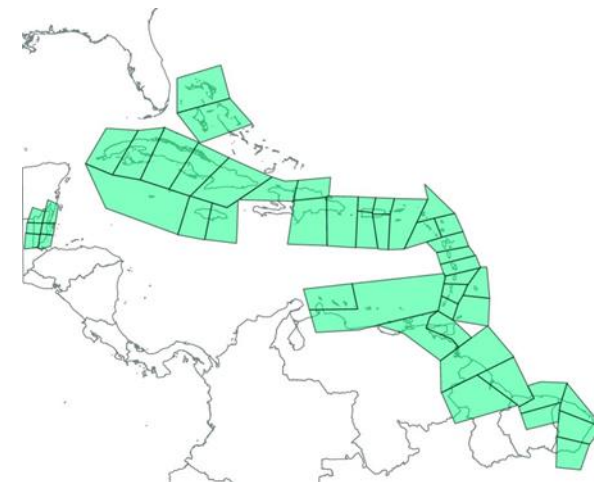
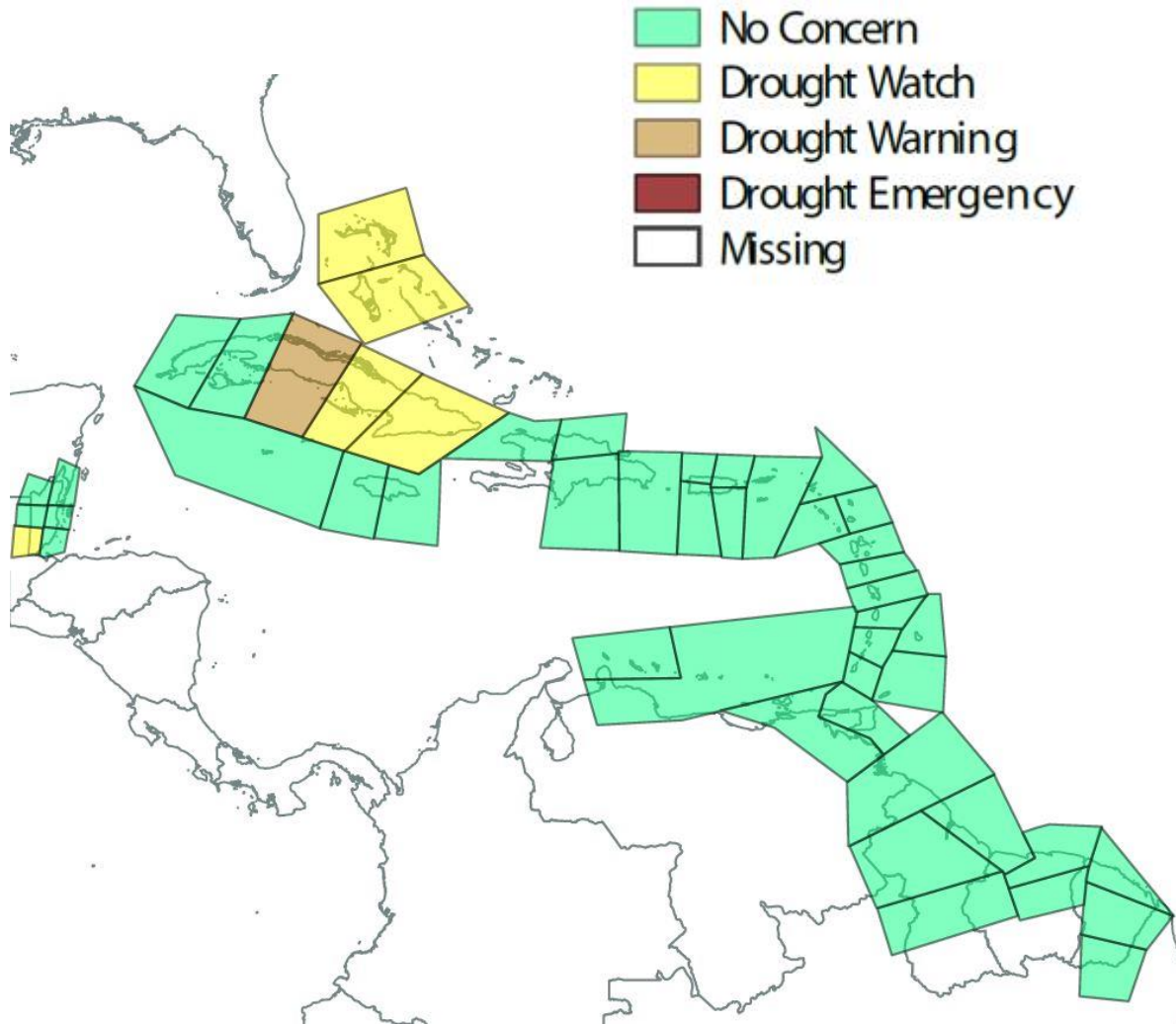
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barts, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



# What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of February 2023?

## Current update (November 2022):

- We are entering the dry season.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for The Bahamas, southwest Belize, and eastern Cuba.
- A **drought warning** should be considered for parts of central Cuba.



Previous update (October):  
short term drought alert levels  
at the end of January 2023

## Short term drought alert levels at the end of February 2023

(updated **November 2022** – based on a 6-month SPI for  
September to February 2022-'23)

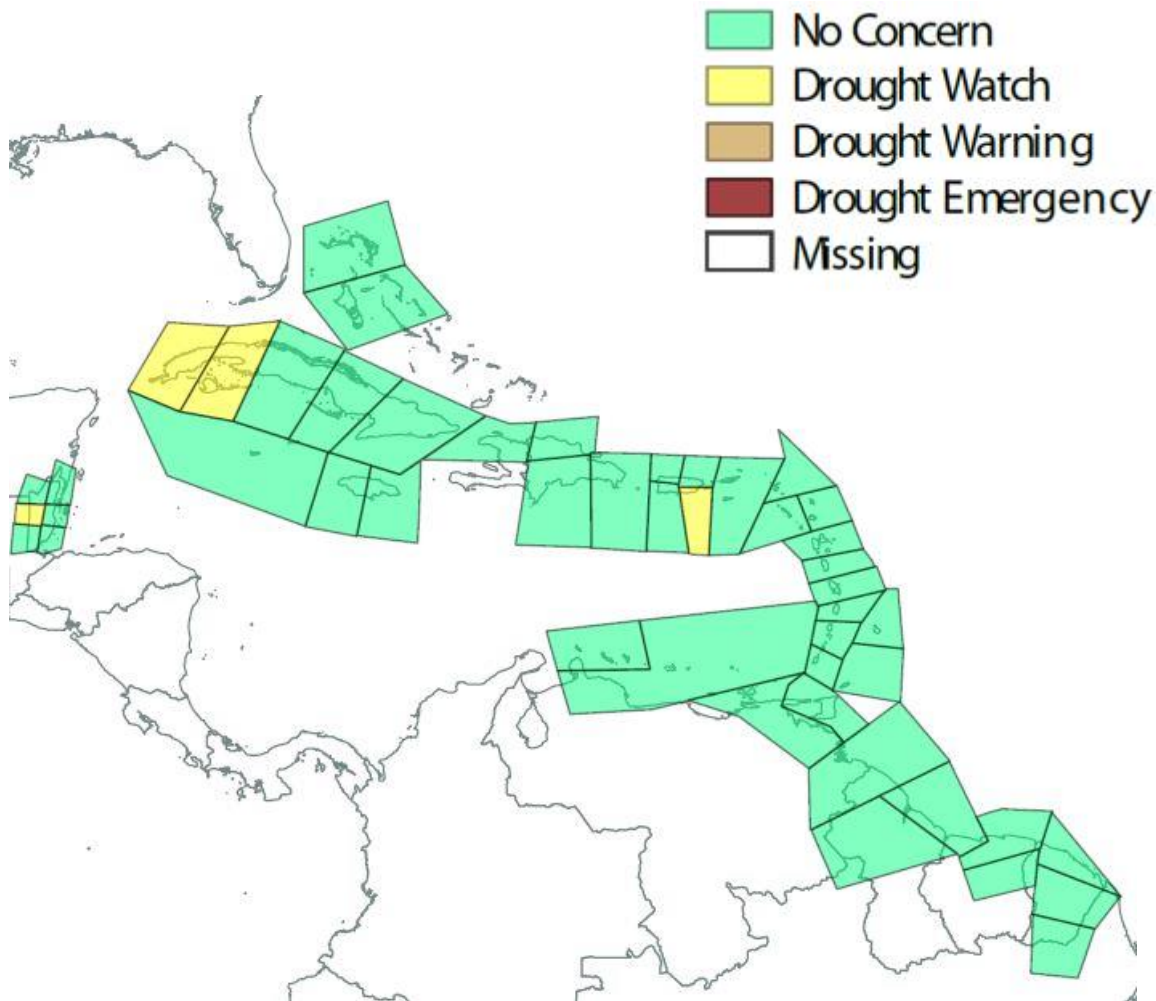
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For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your  
**national meteorological service**. *CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and  
expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.*



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# What is the predicted long term drought concern at the end of May 2023?



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through October 2022, 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 watch** should be considered for western Belize, western Cuba, and southwest Puerto Rico.
- A **drought warning** should be considered for northern Belize.

## Long term drought alert levels at the end of May 2023

(updated November 2022 – based on a 12-month SPI for June 2022 to May 2023)

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.

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

- Current drought situation (up to the end of October 2022): *(more information [here](#))*
  - Severe (or worse) short term drought has developed in Cuba.
  - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Antigua, Western Cuba, southwest Haiti, eastern Jamaica, Martinique, Sint Maarten, and St. Vincent.
- Short-term drought situation (by the end of February 2023):
  - Short term drought might possibly develop in The Bahamas, southwest Belize, and eastern Cuba.
  - Short term drought is evolving across central Cuba.
- Long-term drought situation (by the end of November 2022):
  - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in The Bahamas, southwest Belize, and eastern Cuba.
  - Long term drought is evolving along northern Belize.
  - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May are likely to experience lower than usual water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater.

*\* 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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