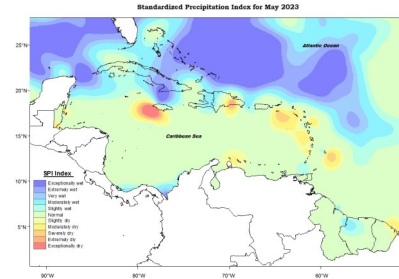


# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

July 2023 | Volume X | ISSUE 2

## Announcement

El Niño conditions have developed in the tropical Pacific, while the tropical Atlantic remains warmer than normal. El Niño and an unusually warm Atlantic have opposing effects on rainfall totals and extremes, as well as hurricane season activity. With normal to above normal rainfall forecasted over most of the Caribbean (except Belize and Trinidad and Tobago) until September 2023, it appears that the warm Atlantic is influencing the outcomes more - at least until the end of September. Concerns over short term drought that impact streams, small rivers and ponds by the end of September, exists only in western Belize, where interests there are asked to monitor their water resources. However, countries in the south of the eastern Caribbean islands, French Guiana and western Belize should monitor their resources (large rivers and reservoirs and groundwater) for long term drought by the end November 2023.

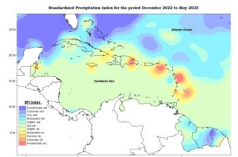
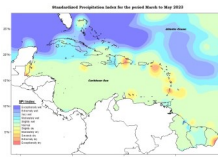


## March-April-May

Apart from Trinidad that was mostly slightly wet to normal, conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal to below normal during the three month period.; Grenada was normal to slightly dry; Barbados, Guadeloupe, St Kitts, St Maarten and Anguilla slightly dry to normal; St Vincent and St Croix extreme to moderately dry; Saint Lucia and Antigua normal; Martinique and Dominica slight to moderately dry; St Thomas slight to moderately dry. In the Guianas, conditions were mostly normal, ranging to extremely wet in northeastern Guyana and to exceptionally dry in southeastern French Guiana. Aruba was normal and Curacao moderately dry. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal ranging to moderately wet in the southeast. The Dominican Republic ranged from moderately wet in the west and east to exceptionally dry in central areas. Jamaica was predominantly normal, ranging to moderately dry in the south. Grand Cayman was moderately wet. Cuba ranged from exceptionally wet in western areas to slightly dry in the east. Northern Bahamas ranged from exceptionally wet to normal and Belize was slightly dry in central areas ranging to extremely dry in the south and to moderately dry in the north.

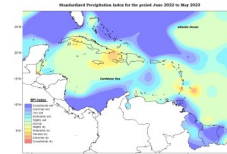
## Month at a Glance

Predominantly normal to below normal conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of May. Trinidad and Grenada were predominantly normal ranging to slightly wet; Barbados, Dominica and Guadeloupe moderately dry to normal; St Vincent and Martinique moderate to slightly dry; Saint Lucia, St Maarten, Anguilla and St Thomas normal; Antigua predominantly normal to slightly dry; St Kitts moderately dry and St Croix predominantly moderate to severely dry. In the Guianas, conditions were mostly normal, ranging to moderately wet in the vicinity of the northern Guyana/Suriname border, and to moderately dry in northeastern French Guiana. Aruba and Curacao were moderate to slightly dry. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal, but slightly wet in the extreme west. [Read More;](#)



MAR 2023 - MAY 2023  
SPI 3 MONTHS

DEC 2022 - MAY 2023  
SPI 6 MONTHS



JUNE 2022 - MAY 2023  
SPI 12 MONTHS

## Latest News

Livestock farmers in Antigua downsizing as drought conditions persist , [Read more;](#)

PM Terrence Drew visits St Peter’s community to take stock of drought situation, [Read more;](#)

## 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:

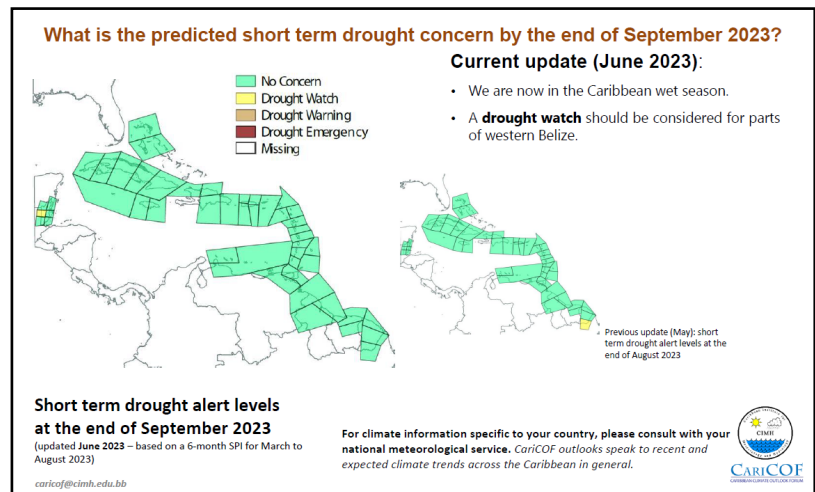
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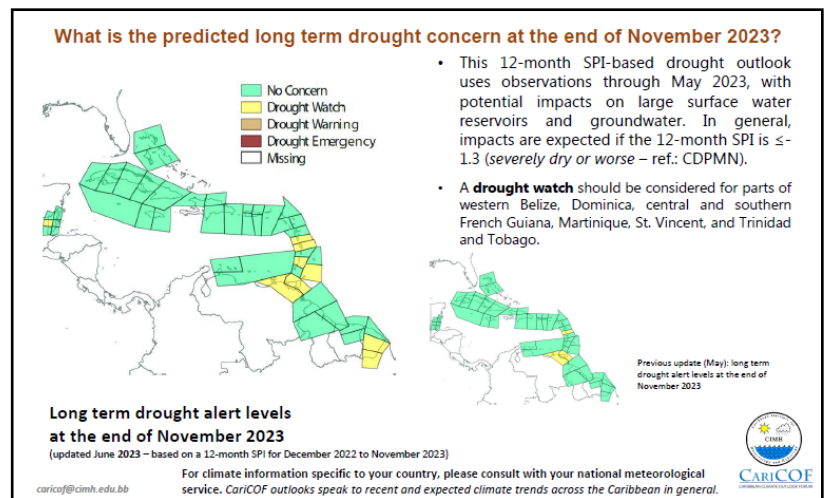
## CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

### Map of short-term drought by the end of September 2023



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of August 2023):
  - Short term drought might possibly develop in parts of western Belize.

### Map of long-term drought by the end of November 2023



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of November 2023):
  - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in parts of western Belize, Dominica, central and southern French Guiana, Martinique, St. Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago.
  - 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 their environment for signs of drought, and look out for our monthly updates"

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)