

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

September 2023 | Volume X | ISSUE 4

## Announcement

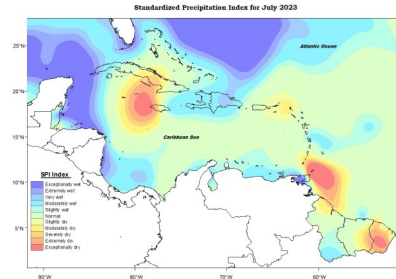
Despite the normal to below normal rainfall outlook for the southern half of the eastern island chain for the period September to November, but being amongst the wettest 3 month periods of the year, there should still be enough rainfall to eliminate a significant drought threat by the end of November. It is, however, recommended that interests in the vicinity of St. Maarten and St. Vincent should monitor their water reserves. Further, interests in the southeast of the region, in particular, should look out for an update on the situation at the end of September to make sure there is no change as the end of the wet season approaches at the end of November.

## Month at a Glance

During the month of July the central portion of the eastern Caribbean experienced normal to above normal rainfall, while the north and the south experienced normal to below normal. Trinidad ranged from exceptionally wet to exceptionally dry southwest to northeast; Grenada, St Maarten and Anguilla moderately dry; Barbados and Dominica normal to slightly wet; St Vincent, St Croix and St Thomas slightly dry; Saint Lucia, Guadeloupe and Antigua normal; Martinique slight to moderately wet and St Kitts normal to slightly dry. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from very wet in southern Guyana to exceptionally dry in southcentral French Guiana. Aruba was normal and Curacao slightly wet. Puerto Rico ranged from normal to slightly dry; The Dominican Republic was very wet in central areas ranging to moderately wet in the west and to slightly wet in the east. Jamaica ranged from exceptionally dry in the west to moderately wet in the east. Grand Cayman was predominantly moderately dry ranging to severely dry in the east. Cuba ranged from exceptionally wet in the extreme west to extremely dry in southeastern areas. Northern Bahamas ranged from normal to very wet and Belize ranged from exceptionally wet in the extreme east to normal in southern and northern areas.

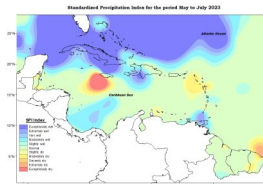
## Latest News

Severe drought in Cuba' easternmost region is being confronted; [Read more;](#)

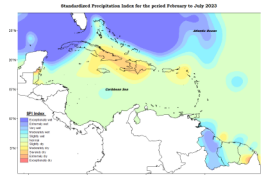


## May-June-July

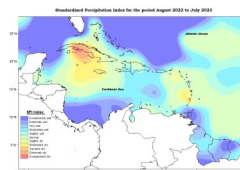
Conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were mixed over the three month period. Trinidad and Grenada ranged from moderate to extremely wet; Barbados and St Thomas normal; St Vincent, Dominica, Antigua and St Croix slightly dry to normal; Saint Lucia and Martinique normal to slightly wet; Guadeloupe, St Kitts, St Maarten and Anguilla moderately dry. In the Guianas, conditions were mostly normal ranging from moderately wet in the extreme south of Guyana to extremely dry on the north-eastern coastline of French Guiana. Aruba ranged from normal to slightly dry and Curacao was slightly dry. Puerto Rico was normal. The Dominican Republic ranged from exceptionally wet in southwestern areas to normal in the east. Jamaica ranged from exceptionally dry in the west to extremely wet in the north and to slightly wet in the extreme east. Grand Cayman was moderately wet. Cuba was predominantly exceptionally wet ranging to extremely wet in southwestern areas and to moderately wet in the east. Northern Bahamas ranged from exceptional to slightly wet and Belize ranged from normal in central areas to slightly dry in the south and to moderately dry in the north.



**MAY 2023 - JULY 2023**  
**SPI 3 MONTHS**



**FEB 2023 - JULY 2023**  
**SPI 6 MONTHS**



**AUG 2022 - JULY 2023**  
**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:

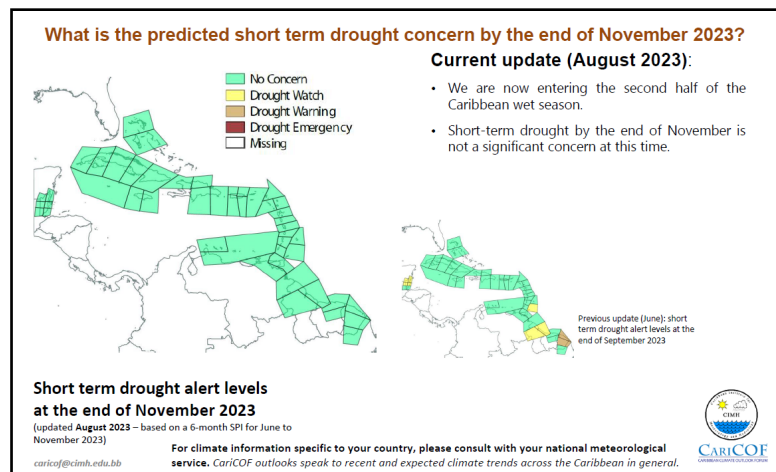
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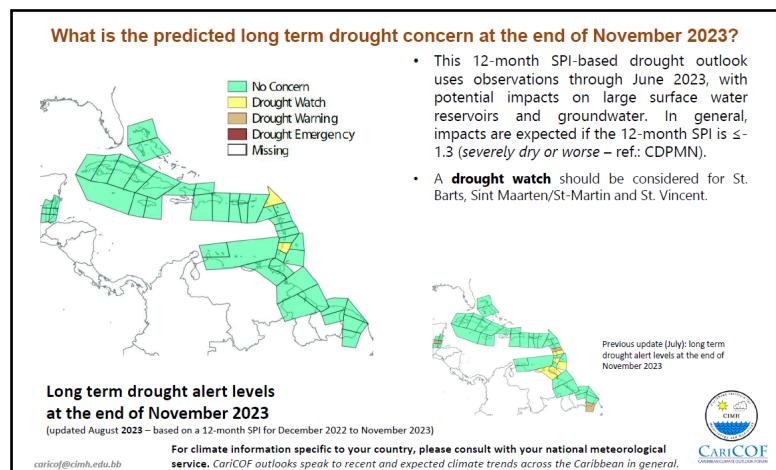
## CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

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



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of November 2023):
  - No concern.

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



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of November 2023):
  - Long-term drought is possible in St. Barts, Sint Maarten/St-Martin and St. Vincent.
  - Areas ending up in long-term drought by the end of November 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](#)**