

Rainfall and Temperature Outlook for Trinidad and Tobago, November 2024 to January 2025

Key words: below-normal (“less than usual”), near-normal (“usual”) or above-normal (“More than usual”)

Issued: Nov 11, 2024

Key Messages:

- Moderate chances (69%) exist for near normal rainfall totals during November to January (NDJ) over Trinidad and Tobago;
- Near normal means that a range of 75% to 125% of the average rainfall amounts is possible;
- Moderate chances (60%) for near normal to below normal number of extremely wet days (> 25.0 mm) during NDJ;
- Moderate chances (67%) exist for near normal rainfall in November 2024;
- NDJ period rainfall totals with the highest chance of occurring range between 362-1105 mm in Trinidad and between 275-820 mm in Tobago;

Likely Impacts:

- Average rainfall totals are expected during November to January with moderate chances for the usual number of wet days (< 25.0 mm) and a moderate chance for flooding to occur;
- Surface water ponding in areas can promote mosquito breeding. This will increase the risk for higher incidences of vector borne diseases;
- Frequent rainfall events, mixed with warm and humid conditions tend to promote rapid multiplication of some agricultural pests, diseases and fungal growth;
- High probability exist for high fly and mosquito populations.

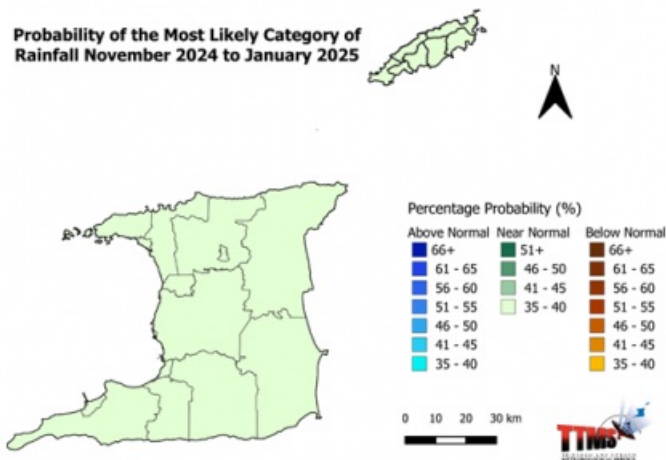


Figure 1: Category of rainfall likely for NDJ (November to January) 2025 with the highest chance of occurrence expressed as probabilities represented on the map. Blue areas indicate places with an increased chance for above normal rainfall, brown areas show an increased chance for below normal rainfall, while green areas show an increased chance for near normal rainfall. Normal is defined by the rainfall that was observed in middle one-third of the NDJ period rainfall totals during the historical period used to produce the outlook.

Disclaimer: This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the assessment or outlook contained in this document. This Outlook provides possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3-6 months and is part of a suite of early warning climate forecasts designed for contingency planners which should not be used in isolation but used along with daily weather and shorter-range forecasts and warnings available from the TTMS. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

- Moderate (62%) probability exists for near normal rainfall totals over Trinidad and Tobago during NDJ;
- Chances are moderate (60%) for near normal to below normal number of extremely wet days (> 25.0 mm) for NDJ; i.e. expect between 1 - 3 extremely wet days in Trinidad and 1-3 in Tobago during the period.
- High (70%) probability exists for above average number of wet days (< 25.0 mm).

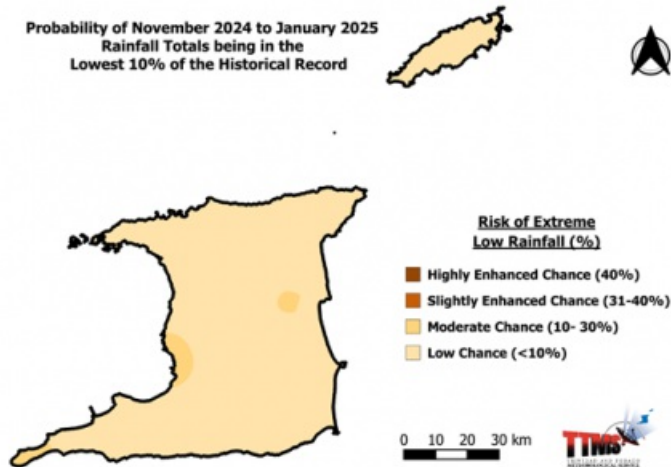


Figure 2: Risk of the NDJ 2025 being extremely drier than normal (within the lowest 10% on record).

- The risk of extremely drier than normal conditions are low to moderate, (4-19%) over Trinidad and (5%-7%) Tobago;

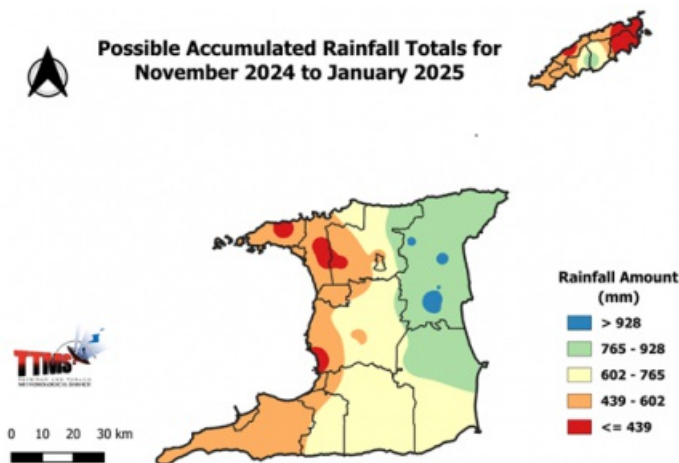


Figure 3: Outlook of possible rainfall accumulated totals for November to January, with the highest chance of occurring.

Disclaimer: This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the assessment or outlook contained in this document. This Outlook provides possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3-6 months and is part of a suite of early warning climate forecasts designed for contingency planners which should not be used in isolation but used along with daily weather and shorter-range forecasts and warnings available from the TTMS. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

- Largest rainfall accumulated totals for NDJ are likely to be as high as 1105 mm in areas such as Sangre Grande, North Oropouche and Plum Mitan in Northeastern Trinidad; and near 820 mm in Goodwood, Mt. Saint George and Hillsborough in southeast Tobago.

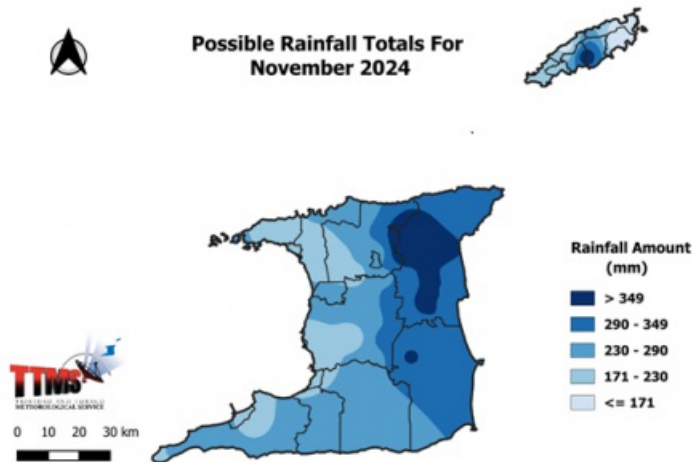


Figure 4: Possible rainfall totals for November 2024.

- November rainfall with the highest chance of occurring ranges from about 174-408 mm in Trinidad and 111-368 mm in Tobago;
- There is a moderate probability for flooding events to occur in November 2024.

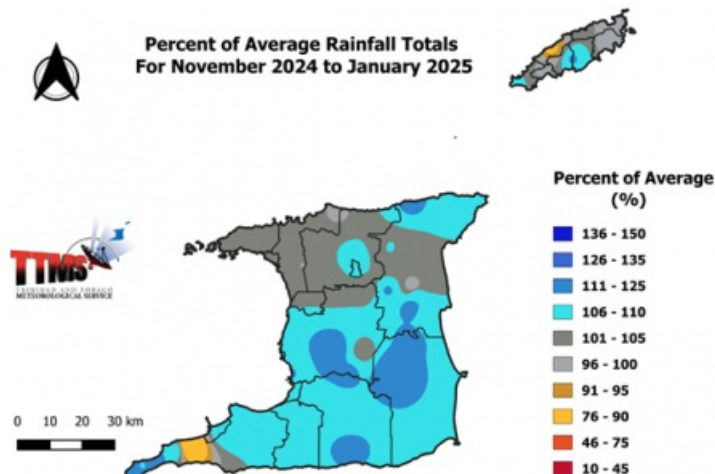


Figure 5: Percentage of Average Rainfall Totals for November to January 2025

- November to January (NDJ) rainfall totals are likely to be near normal over Trinidad and Tobago;

Disclaimer: This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the assessment or outlook contained in this document. This Outlook provides possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3-6 months and is part of a suite of early warning climate forecasts designed for contingency planners which should not be used in isolation but used along with daily weather and shorter-range forecasts and warnings available from the TTMS. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

Probability of Most Likely Category of Rainfall February to April 2025

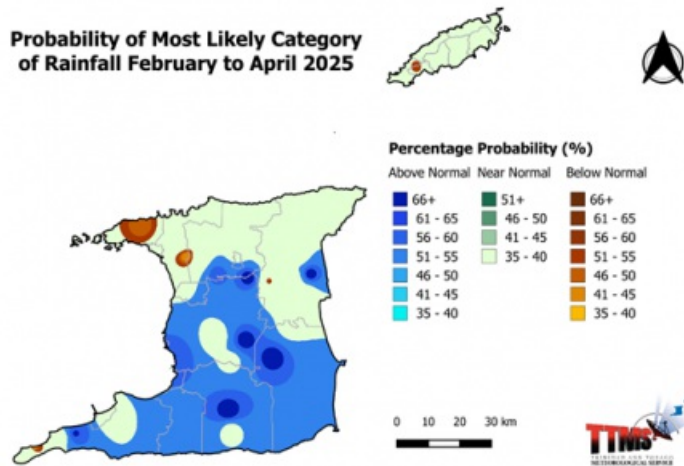


Figure 6: Category of rainfall likely for February to April with the highest chance of occurrence expressed as probabilities represented on the map. Blue areas indicate places with an increased chance for above normal rainfall, brown areas show an increased chance for below normal rainfall, while green areas show an increased chance for near normal rainfall. Normal is defined by the rainfall that was observed in middle one-third of the FMA seasons during the historical period used to produce the outlook.

- Mostly near normal to above normal rainfall totals are expected across Trinidad and Tobago during February to April 2025.

The Temperature Outlook Favours Above Normal Temperatures for November to January 2025.

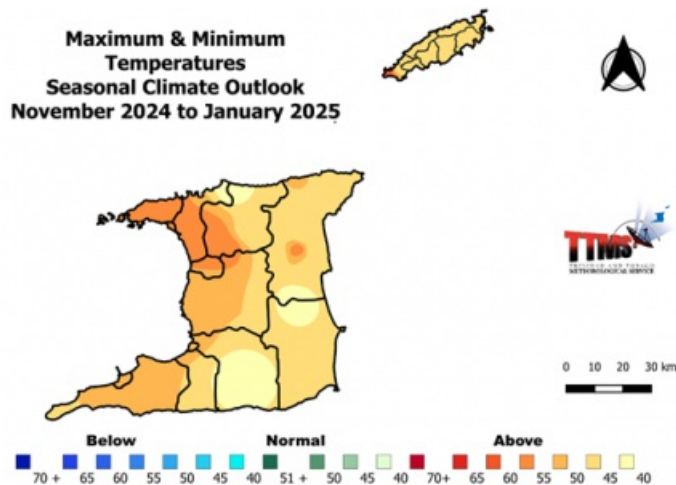


Figure 7: The map shows the colour-coded category (below-normal, above-normal, and near-normal) of maximum and minimum temperatures that is most likely to occur across Trinidad and Tobago for the November to January (NDJ) period 2025. The colour-coded bar-graph with the numbers to the right gives the likelihood for each forecast category to occur.

- Both daytime and night temperatures are likely to be warmer than average over both islands;

Disclaimer: This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the assessment or outlook contained in this document. This Outlook provides possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3-6 months and is part of a suite of early warning climate forecasts designed for contingency planners which should not be used in isolation but used along with daily weather and shorter-range forecasts and warnings available from the TTMS. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

- There is a 69% chance of warmer than average days in urban and built up areas in Trinidad and Tobago;
- Chances of warmer than average nights are highest in Trinidad where there is a 70% chance, while Tobago has a 68% chance;

Climatic Influencers and Context of the Outlook

- Currently, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in waters surrounding Trinidad and Tobago and further east of the islands are above average. Most climate models surveyed favour above average temperatures to persist throughout the period November to January 2025.
- La Niña watch exist presently, with a change to La Niña likely during the late part of November, this may be associated with the increase of local cloudiness and local rainfall;
- The North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) was observed in a moderately strong negative phase all throughout October and forecasted to change to weak negative phase in November. The overall influence should be a small positive impact on local rainfall.
- Models indicate that the Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) signal is presently over eastern Caribbean, and is likely reside over the Trinidad and Tobago for the rest of November 2024.

How Should You Respond?

Take Early Action!

Health Sector:

- Clear bushes, open drainage systems, fumigate in and around residences;
- Revisit contingency plans to manage spike in vector borne incidences and rainfall related infections.

Disaster Risk Management Sector:

- Sensitize communities on the forecast and its negative impacts;
- Revisit early warning information dissemination channels;
- Alert communities in low lying areas (flood prone) to act early;
- Alert at risk residence and communities that are still prone to landslide and slip.

Agriculture & Food Security Sector

- Practice soil moisture conservation like mulching and trenches;
- Clear vegetation from crop beds and drains to ease waterlogged soils.
- Put in place disease control measures.

Water, Drainage and Energy sector

- Implement water harvesting, storage and proper usage;
- Conduct routine de-silting of water channels, canals and reservoirs;
- Remove dry branches, trees and overhang near electrical wires.

General Public

Disclaimer: This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the assessment or outlook contained in this document. This Outlook provides possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3-6 months and is part of a suite of early warning climate forecasts designed for contingency planners which should not be used in isolation but used along with daily weather and shorter-range forecasts and warnings available from the TTMS. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

- Proper preparation especially for persons in at risk areas;
- Clean drains and surrounding areas of debris, be sand-bag ready;
- Conserve, store and manage water in a safe and adequate manner;
- Be watchful for extreme rainfall events;

Be vigilant and visit the Met Service website regularly to keep up to date on local weather changes daily at www.metoffice.gov.tt or download our mobile app on Google Play Store or Apple iStore.