

# Caribbean Climate Outlook Newsletter - September to November 2025

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

## BRIEF SUMMARY: May to November 2025

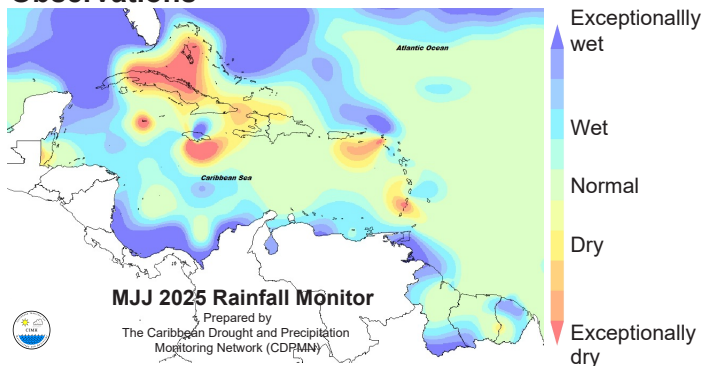
**May to July 2025:** North Atlantic ocean temperatures remained close to average in the tropics west of Africa, but they run above average around the Caribbean Sea. This, along with drought, has fueled above average air temperatures in parts of The Bahamas, Belize and Cuba. Whereas drought was observed in the latter areas, Grand Cayman and St. Barts, northernmost Guyana was record wet.

**September to November 2025:** The forecast ENSO neutral conditions, near-average sea surface temperatures in the Tropical North Atlantic, persistent warmth around and north of the Caribbean, and slackened winds imply: (i) recurrent excessive humid heat, potentially culminating in heatwaves from Dominica southwards where the Caribbean Heat Season peaks in September and October; (ii) rainfall intensity and shower frequency should peak, resulting in *high to extremely high* potential for flooding, flash floods, cascading hazards and associated impacts; (iii) increasing Atlantic Hurricane Season activity into September, progressively slowing down from October onwards; (iv) the Guianas are in their long dry season through mid- to late-November, steadily increasing wildfire potential but decreasing flood potential there.

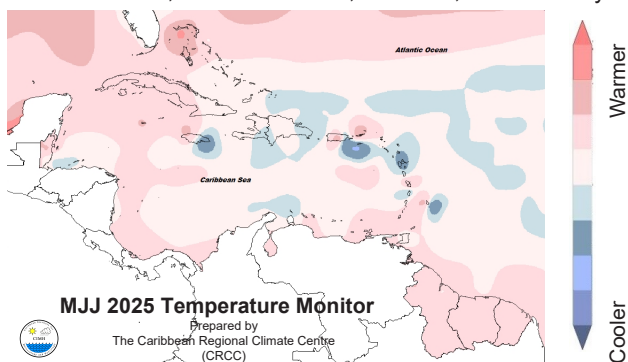
### LOOKING BACK:

#### May - June - July (MJJ) 2025

##### Observations



♦ **RAINFALL:** southwest Belize, the Northwestern Bahamas, and large parts of Cuba, St. Barts, St. Vincent very dry; Anguilla, parts of the Guianas, central Jamaica, St. Barts, Trinidad very wet.



♦ **TEMPERATURE:** Most island locations close to or up to 1°C higher than usual; Antigua, Guadeloupe, southeast Jamaica, eastern Puerto Rico and St. Croix slightly cooler than usual.

#### Notable Climate Records in MJJ 2025:

**WET:** 1 location in Guyana and 1 in Jamaica reported record-high rainfall totals (~160% to 355% of avg.) for this period.

**DRY:** Grand Cayman, 1 location in Cuba and 1 in Jamaica reported record-low rainfall totals (~5% to 35% of avg.) for this period.

**HOT:** 1 location in The Bahamas reported record-high mean temperatures.

More at <https://carogen.cimh.edu.bb/index.php/component/countrydata/>

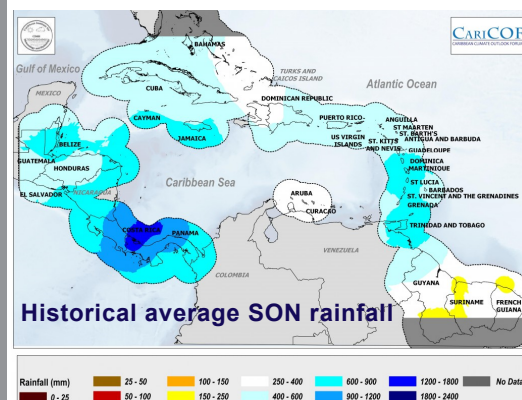
August 2025

find out more by using the clickable images and headings or visit [rcc.cimh.edu.bb](http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb)

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### WHAT NEXT?

#### Rainfall patterns September-October-November (SON)



**Belize & C'bean Islands north of 16°N:**

Sep to Nov - wet season. Usually frequent heavy showers.

**C'bean Islands south of 16°N (except ABC Islands):**

Sep to Nov - wet season. Usually frequent heavy showers.

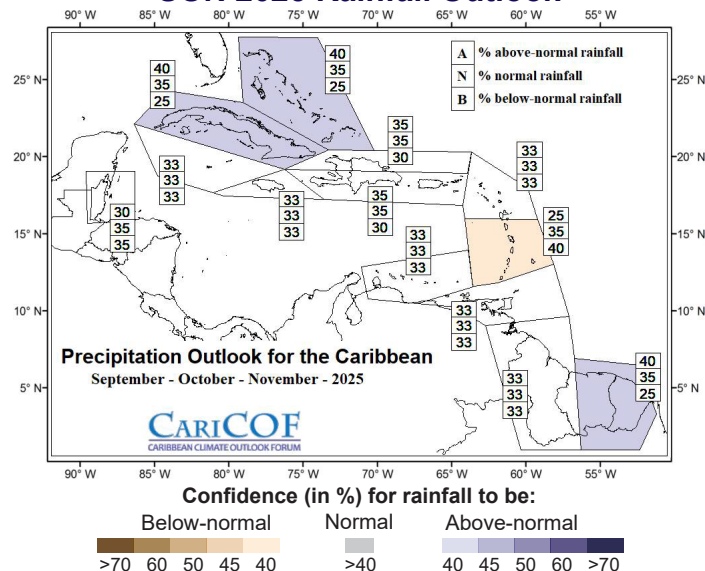
**ABC Islands:** mostly dry with occasional wet spells.

**Guianas:**

Sep to Oct - Dry season with heavy showers at times.

November - Increase in showers.

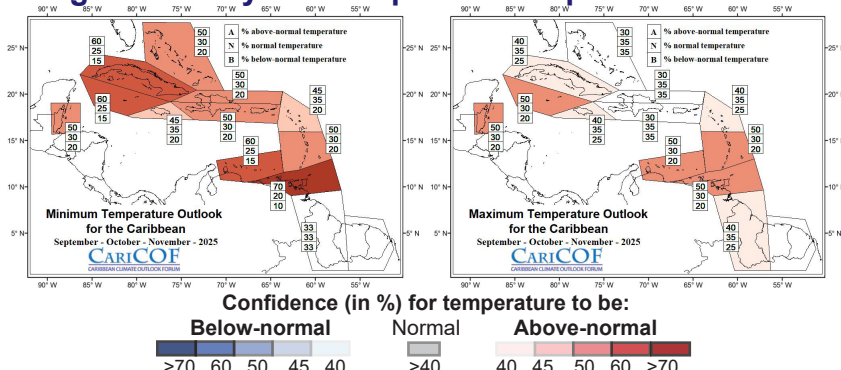
#### SON 2025 Rainfall Outlook



Rainfall totals from August to October are forecast to be the usual or higher in The Bahamas, Cuba and eastern parts of the Guianas, but the usual or less in Barbados and the Windward Islands (*medium confidence*).

White areas show where the forecast indicates little information on rainfall totals.

## Night- and daytime temperatures up to November



SON night-time and daytime temperature are forecast to at least as high as usual (*medium to high confidence*), with spells of hazardous, humid heat expected through October in the ABC Islands, Barbados, the Windward Islands, and through November in the Guianas. However, the intensity of the 2025 Heat Season is not forecast to match 2023 or 2024.

## Wet days and wet spells up to November

### What usually happens from September to November?

- Number of wet days: roughly 35 to 50 (ABC Is: 10 to 20; coastal Guianas: 20 to 35).
- Number of wet spells: 3 to 6 (coastal Guianas: 1 to 3), of which 1 to 4 are very wet (coastal Guianas: up to 2).
- Number of extremely wet spells: up to 2 (Guianas: none).

### Forecast and Implications:

- *High to extremely high* potential for long-term flooding, flash floods and related hazards across the Caribbean Islands and Belize; *moderate* potential in the Guianas, increasing to *high* by late-November in northern areas.
- Surface wetness makes environmental conditions more conducive to moisture-related pests in the islands and Belize.
- Growing wildfire potential in the Guianas along their dry season, followed by a trend towards heavier showers by late-November, significantly increasing flood potential at that time.

## Drought conditions

**Latest drought situation:** (as of August 1st, 2025) *Severe* (or worse) short-term drought has developed in the Northwestern Bahamas, southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, Central, northern and southeasternmost Cuba, St. Vincent; *severe* (or worse) long-term drought in the Northwestern Bahamas, southwest Belize, Central Cuba, northern parts of the Dominican Republic, St. Barts.

**Short-term drought** (at the end of Nov. 2025) Short-term drought is *evolving* in southwest Belize and *might possibly develop* in Northern Bahamas, parts of Belize, parts of Central Cuba, Martinique and Trinidad.

**Long-term drought** (at the end of Nov. 2025) Long-term drought is *imminent* in the Northwestern Bahamas and is *evolving* in the Northern Bahamas, Grand Cayman.

## BRIEF CLIMATE OUTLOOK - December 2025 to February 2026

This period marks the first half of the Caribbean Dry Season and the Cool Season. A warmer than average Tropical North Atlantic is forecast, potentially combined with La Niña conditions. Consequently, slightly warmer than average air temperatures and humidity remain likely in the Caribbean, but a steady decrease in heat stress is expected by October or November with the transition into the Cool Season by December. The risk of severe weather impacts from frequent tropical cyclones or other shower activity, including flooding, flash floods, and cascading impacts should be *high to extremely high* through December, decreasing to *moderate* by late-February. La Niña would raise the odds of copious rains and flood potential in northern and central parts of the Guianas. *For temperature and precipitation outlooks for DJF 2024-25, please visit [rcc.cimh.edu.bb/caricof-climate-outlooks](http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/caricof-climate-outlooks)*

## What influences the next season?

### El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

**Recent observations:** Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in the Eastern Equatorial Pacific are running just below average, i.e., ENSO cool-neutral conditions.

**Model forecast and guidance:** The forecast models forecast ENSO neutral conditions or, possibly, a transition to La Niña conditions in SON (~40-55% confidence each, resp.), and in DJF (~40-50% confidence each, resp.).

**Expected impacts on rainfall and temperatures:** ENSO neutral conditions do not contribute to seasonal forecast skill, whereas a return to La Niña would increase the odds of a wetter DJF, except in the northern Caribbean.

### Climate conditions in the Tropical North Atlantic and Caribbean

**Recent observations:** SSTs in the Tropical North Atlantic (TNA) are significantly cooler than around the same time in 2024, but still run up to 1°C above average just north the Greater Antilles and around the eastern Caribbean.

**Expected conditions:** Models are forecasting persistently warm SST anomalies of 0.2-0.5°C above average in SON and in DJF around Belize, the Greater Antilles and, especially, the Lucayan archipelago.

**Expected impacts:** Warm SSTs around the Caribbean tend to contribute to higher air temperatures (including hot spells), humidity (exacerbating heat stress during the Heat Season), rainfall totals, as well as increased frequency of severe weather.

## Climate outlooks - background

The Caribbean Climate Outlooks are prepared by the Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF). The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology, in its role as WMO Regional Climate Centre, coordinates the CariCOF process. Contributors to the Outlooks are the Meteorological Services from the region. The Precipitation and Temperature Outlooks are issued in the form of a map, which shows regions where the forecast rainfall or temperatures have the same probabilities to be:

Above-normal (A)	- within the wettest/hottest third of the historical record
Near-normal (N)	- within the middle third of the historical record, i.e. a range called the 'usual'
Below-normal (B)	- within the driest/coldest third of the historical record

CariCOF Outlooks offer consensus-based information averaged across multiple territories. In some cases, individual national results may differ from region wide results. To get information on your specific country context, please consult your National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and/or any national level bulletins they may provide.

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