CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of March 2026

Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology
Dr. Cédric J. Van Meerbeeck - Climatologist
Dr. Teddy Allen – Assistant Climatologist
caricof@cimh.edu.bb

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

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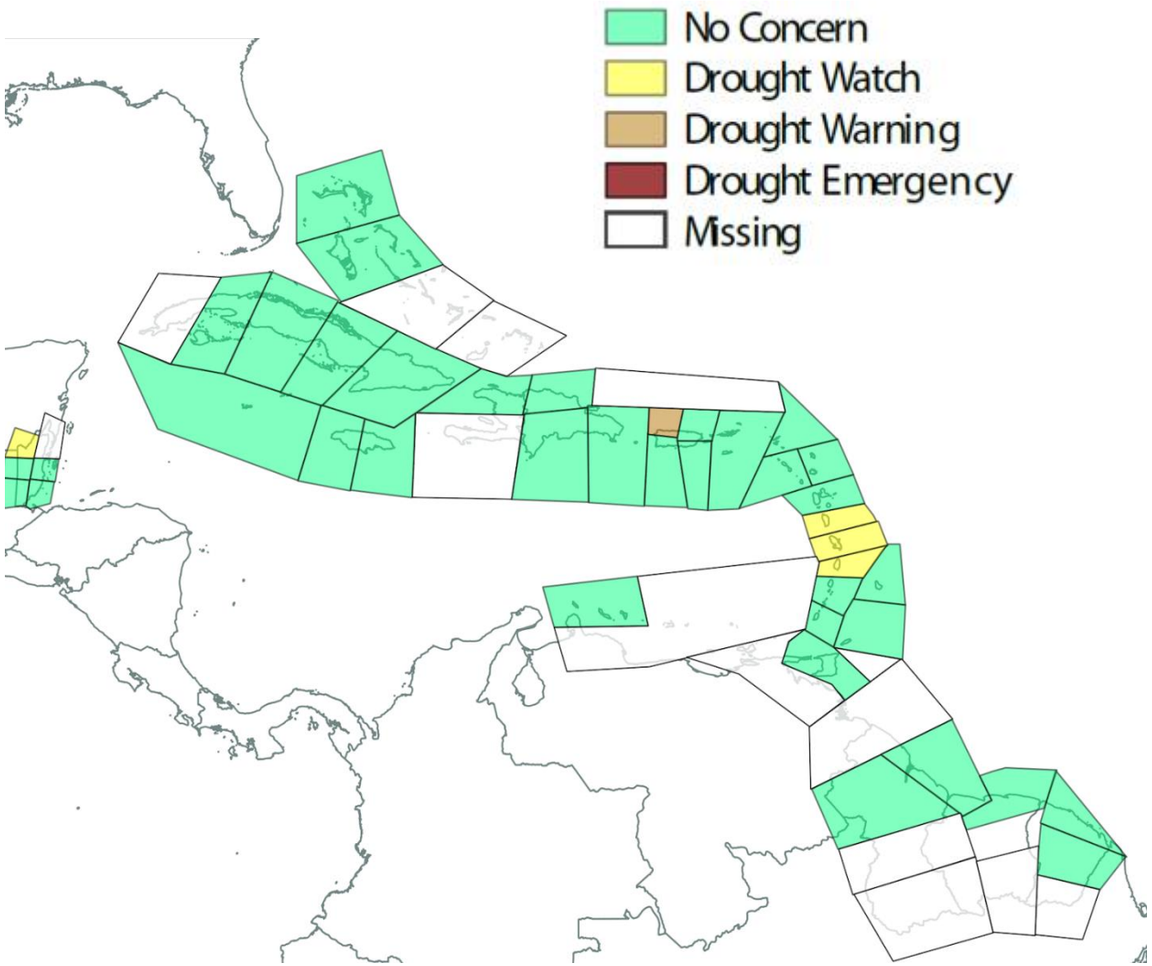
What is the predicted agricultural drought concern by the end of January 2026?



Current update (December 2025):

- A **drought warning** should be considered for northwest Puerto Rico.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for northwest Belize, Dominica, Martinique and Saint Lucia.

Agricultural drought alert levels at the end of January 2026

(updated **December 2025** – based on a 3-month SPI for November to January 2025-26)

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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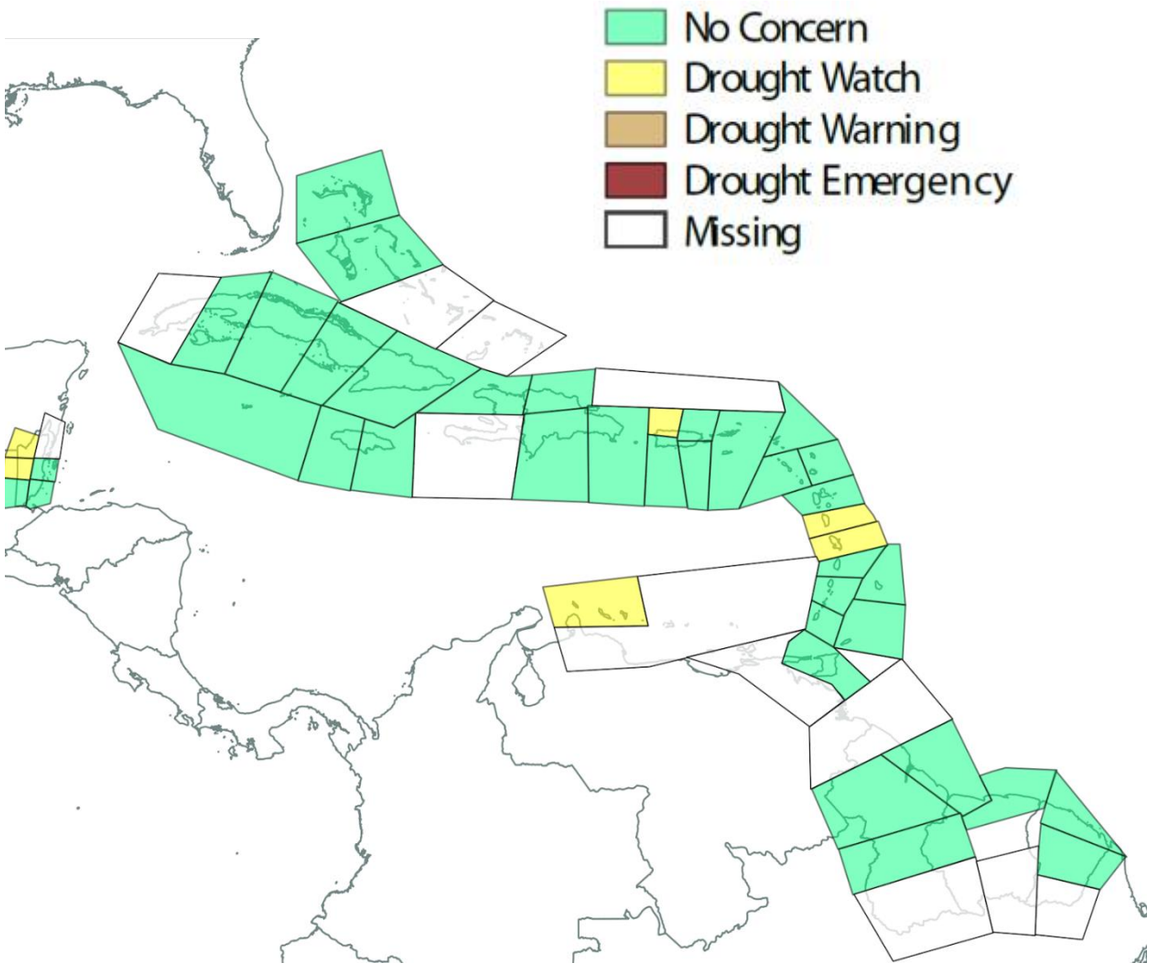
What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of March 2026?



Current update (January 2025):

- We are in the Caribbean Dry Season.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for the ABC islands, western Belize, Dominica, Martinique and northwest Puerto Rico.

Short term drought alert levels at the end of March 2026

(updated **December 2025** – based on a 6-month SPI for October 2025 to March 2026)

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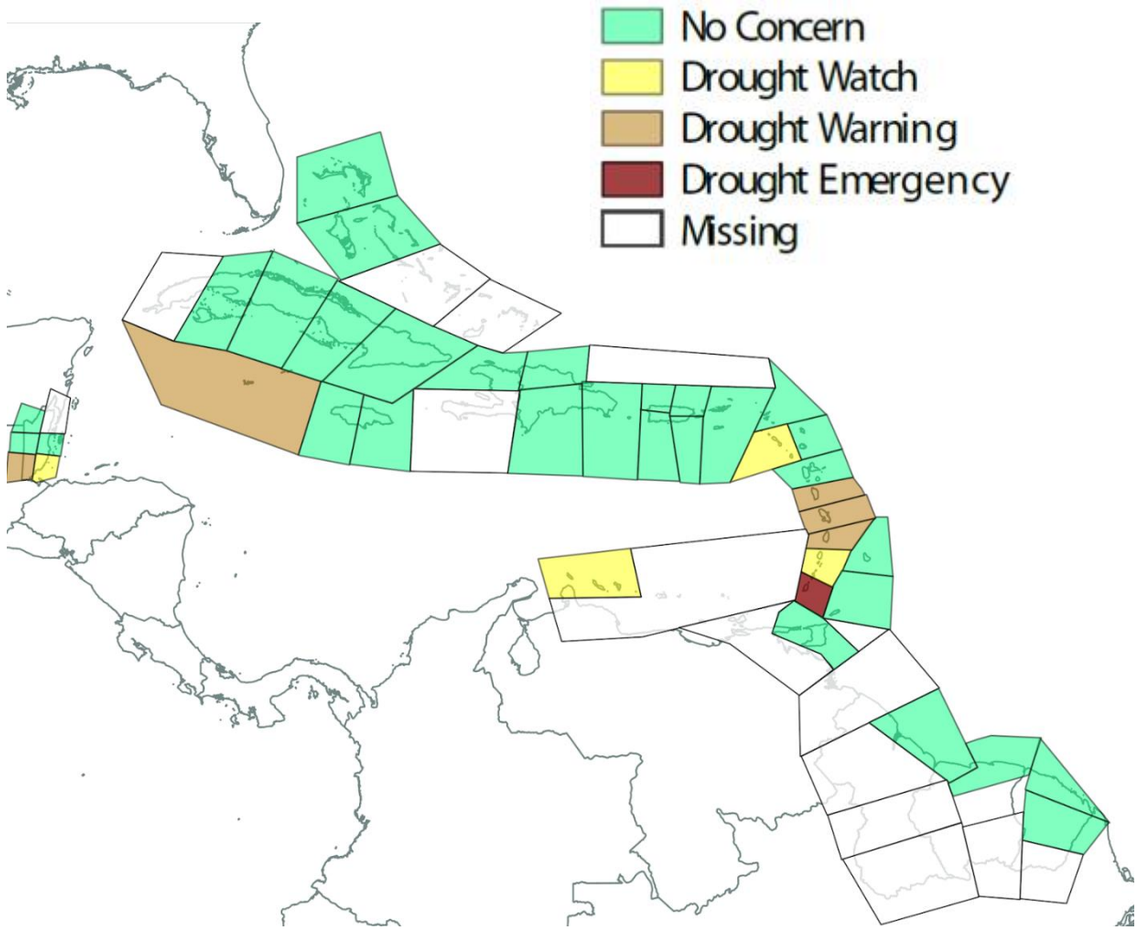
What is the predicted long term drought concern at the end of May 2026?



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through October 2025, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤-0.8 (*moderately dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought emergency** should be considered for Grenada.
- A **drought warning** should be considered for southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, Dominica, Martinique and St. Lucia.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for the ABC islands, southeast Belize, St. Kitts and St. Vincent.

Long term drought alert levels at the end of May 2026

(updated December **2025** – based on a 12-month SPI for June 2025 to May 2026)

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Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of November 2025): *(more information here)*
  - Moderate (or worse) short-term drought has developed in Aruba, southeast Barbados, Grand Cayman, Dominica, Grenada, northern Guyana, Martinique, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent.
  - Moderate (or worse) long-term drought has developed in Aruba, southeast Barbados, southwest Belize, Cayman Islands, Central and parts of Western Cuba, Grenada, central parts of northern Guyana, western Jamaica, Martinique, St-Barts, St. Croix and Saint Vincent.
- Agricultural drought situation (by the end of December 2025):
  - Agricultural drought is *evolving* in northwest Puerto Rico.
  - Agricultural drought *might possibly develop or continue* in northwest Belize, Dominica, Martinique and Saint Lucia.
- Short-term drought situation (by the end of February 2026):
  - Short-term drought *might possibly develop or continue* in ABC islands, western Belize, Dominica, Martinique and northwest Puerto Rico.
- Long-term drought situation (by the end of May 2026):
  - Long-term drought is *imminent* in Grenada and is *evolving* in southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, Dominica, Martinique and Saint Lucia.
  - Long-term drought might possibly develop or continue in the ABC islands, southeast Belize, St. Kitts and St, Vincent.

** We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.**

CONTINUE TO MONITOR & CONSERVE WATER !!

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ALERT LEVEL	MEANING	ACTION LEVEL
NO CONCERN	No drought concern	✓ **monitor resources** ✓ update and ratify management plans ✓ public awareness campaigns ✓ upgrade infrastructure
DROUGHT WATCH	Drought possible	✓ **keep updated** ✓ protect resources and conserve water ✓ implement management plans ✓ response training ✓ monitor and repair infrastructure
DROUGHT WARNING	Drought evolving	✓ **protect resources** ✓ conserve and recycle water ✓ implement management plans ✓ release public service announcements ✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades ✓ report impacts
DROUGHT EMERGENCY	Drought of immediate concern	✓ **release public service announcements** ✓ implement management and response plans ✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling ✓ enforce resource protection ✓ repair infrastructure ✓ report impacts

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Thresholds

Drought	
Alert Levels	Probabilities
No Concern	< 33.3333
Drought Watch	33.3334 – 50
Drought Warning	50 – 83.3333
Drought Emergency	≥ 83.3334

ROC	
Discrimination	Thresholds
No	< 0.5
Poor	0.5 0.6
Moderate	0.6 – 0.7
Fair	0.7 -0.8
Good	0.8 – 0.95
Very Good	> 0.95

Goodness Index	
Skill	Thresholds
Negative Skill	< 0
Very Limited	0 – 0.1
Limited	0.1 – 0.2
Moderate	0.2 – 0.25
Fair	0.25 -0.3
Good	> 0.3

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Regional climate data, information, tools, experimental and operational products are available at

https://rcc.cimh.edu.bb

Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology
Contact: caricof@cimh.edu.bb

Author(s): Dr. Teddy Allen – *Asst. Climatologist*
(cmeerbeeck@cimh.edu.bb)