

Caribbean Climate Outlook Newsletter - August to October 2026

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.

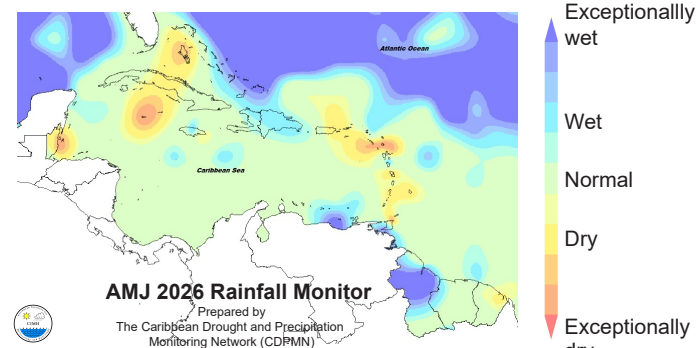
BRIEF SUMMARY: April to October 2026

April to June 2026: The transition into the Caribbean Heat Season and Wet Season featured increased evaporation rates due to strong trade winds and below-average rainfall totals around the Antilles and in eastern Belize. This exacerbated surface dryness and lingering wildfire risk and led to long-term drought in several countries, particularly in the Windward Islands.

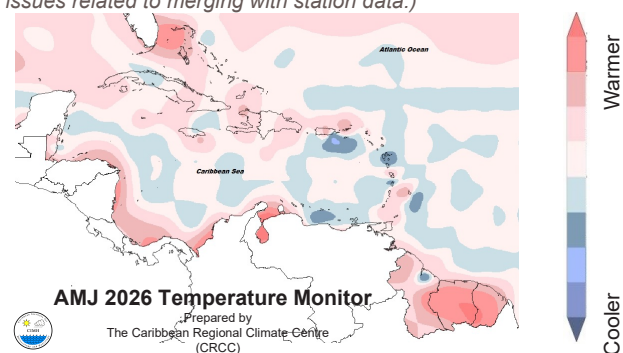
August to October 2026: During the peak of the Atlantic Hurricane Season and the Caribbean Wet Season and the second half of the Heat Season, a very strong El Niño in the Pacific, implies: (i) intense humid heat into the peak of the Heat Season in September, culminating in recurrent heatwaves, esp. in the Lesser Antilles and Guianas; (ii) *irregular* and less frequent than usual bouts of Atlantic Hurricane Season activity; (iii) potential continuation or exacerbation of drought impacts, particularly in Grand Cayman and the Lesser Antilles; (iv) lower than usual rainfall frequency than in most years; (v) despite being less frequent than in most years, the expected occurrence of excessive rainfall events leads to *high to extremely high* potential for flooding, flash floods, cascading hazards and associated impacts. Intrusions of dusty Saharan air will inhibit tropical cyclone activity, but exacerbate humid heat and deteriorate air quality.

LOOKING BACK:

April - May - June (AMJ) 2026 Observations



• **RAINFALL:** Antigua, parts of Central Bahamas, eastern Belize, Grand Cayman, St. Kitts & Nevis, southwest Tobago very dry; southern Bahamas, much of northern Guyana, southwest Trinidad very wet. (Note: map may contain erroneous reanalysis-based SPI estimates over the oceans due to issues related to merging with station data.)



• **TEMPERATURE:** Northern and Northwest Bahamas, French Guiana, southeast Guyana and Suriname 0.75-2.5°C warmer than usual; Antigua, an inland pocket of northern Guyana, southeast Puerto Rico, northern Saint Lucia, St. Croix slightly cooler than usual.

Notable Climate Records in AMJ 2026:

WET: 2 locations in Guyana reported record-high rainfall totals for this period (~175% of avg.).

DRY: 1 location in Antigua reported record-low rainfall totals for this period (~35% of avg.).

HOT: Grand Bahama, 1 location in Grenada, 1 in Guyana and 1 in Jamaica reported record-high temperatures for this period.

More at <https://carogenv2.cimh.edu.bb/app/stats/>

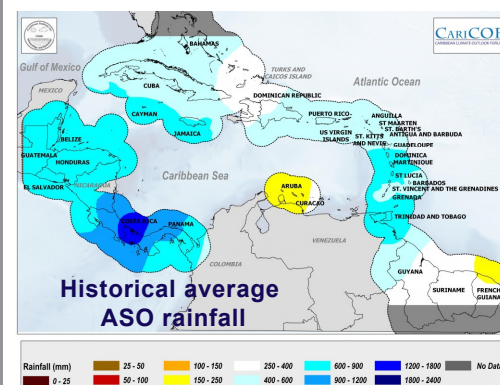
July 2026

find out more by using the clickable images and headings or visit rcc.cimh.edu.bb

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WHAT NEXT?

Rainfall patterns August - September - October (ASO)



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

Aug - wet season. Often includes a mid-summer dry spell. Sep to Oct - wet season. Usually frequent heavy showers.

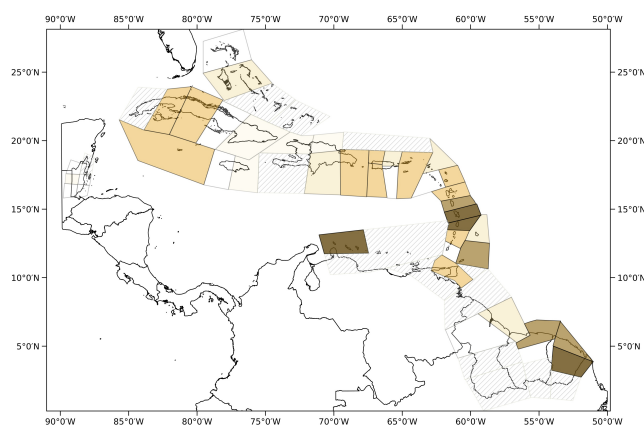
C'bean Islands south of 16°N (except ABC Islands):

Aug to Oct - wet season. Usually frequent heavy showers.

ABC Islands: Mostly dry with occasional wet spells, increasing in frequency in October.

Guianas: early Aug - long wet season. Heavy showers are frequent. late Aug to Oct - dry season. Heavy showers at times.

ASO 2026 Rainfall Outlook



Rainfall totals from August to October are *likely* to be the usual or less across most of the Antilles, French Guiana, coastal Guyana, and Suriname (*medium to high confidence*), as well as the Northwest Bahamas and western Belize (*low confid.*). White areas show where the forecast indicates little information on rainfall totals.

