

Heat Outlook for October 2026 to March 2027

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Episodes of excessive heat expected possible through the end of the unusually hot 2026 Caribbean Heat Season

Participating countries and 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. Barth's, 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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CARIBBEAN CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM

Health: Increased frequency of heat symptoms due to excessive heat through the end of the Heat Season

(The Bahamas: through Sept.; Antilles & Belize: through Oct.; Guianas: through Nov.)

Public health:

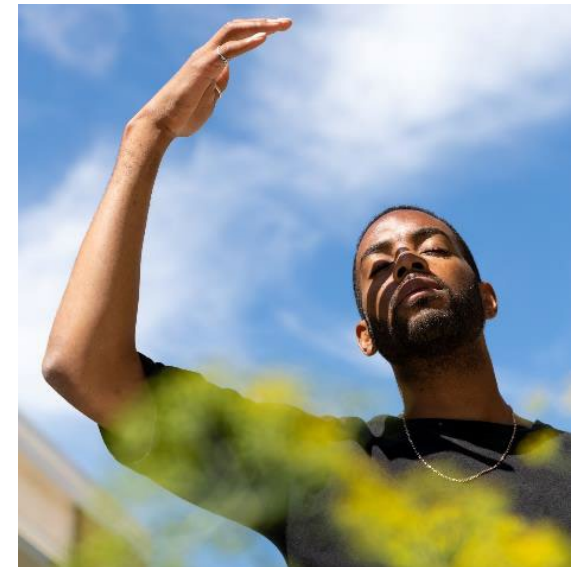
- *significant* increase in mild heat symptoms
- *likely* increase in heat illnesses, fainting episodes, hospitalisations, health services
- *likely* increase in biological risk (e.g. Aedes mosquito borne diseases, gastrointestinal disease)
- *exacerbation* of vulnerability in patients with chronic illness, children, pregnant women and the elderly

Occupational health:

- *potential* increase in exhaustion during intense outdoor activity
- *significantly* reduced labour performance and productivity if unprotected

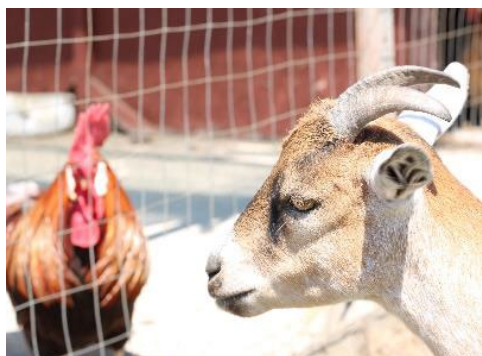
Well-being:

- *significantly* increased sweating and water consumption
- snacking/binge eating leading to acute negative health impacts (hypertension, diabetes) and weight gain
- *increased* fatigue, irritability and aggression during possible prolonged heatwaves



Agriculture: Expect *likely* impacts from excessive heat

(The Bahamas: through Sept.; Antilles & Belize: through Oct.; Guianas: through Nov.)



Livestock:

- *increased* cooling and ventilation need to mitigate heat stress in small and large livestock
- stunted growth rate of broilers and egg production of layers
- *potentially* reduced dairy production

Crop agriculture:

- *exacerbation* of any evolving drought conditions leading to increased wilting
- *significantly* reduced productivity between 10 AM and 3 PM

Fisheries:

- *increased* water temperatures potentially reducing catch of reef fish, die-off and migration of pelagic fish
- *significant* potential for coral reef bleaching as early as August

Forestry:

- *exacerbation* of any evolving drought conditions
- increased wildfire potential where fuel stock is dry

Tourism – Energy – Water:

Expect *likely* impacts from excessive heat

(The Bahamas: through Sept.; Antilles & Belize: through Oct.; Guianas: through Nov.)

Tourism:

- **Heat adaptation** – *significantly* increased demand for AC and refrigeration and associated costs in hotels
- **Diving operations** – *strong* potential coral reef bleaching in the northern parts of the Caribbean, *possibly* reducing demand in the long term



Energy:

- **Production** – reduced efficiency of power generation; *potential* increase in interruptions as a result of spikes in cooling demand
- **Demand and consumption** – *significantly* increased cooling need in households, hotels, restaurants



Water:

- **Quantity and quality** – recharge of water reservoirs along the wet season slowed down due to increased evapotranspiration; *potential* increase in algal blooms
- **Consumption** – *likely* increase in households, hotels and power utilities



DRM – Child Care & Education

Expect *likely* impacts from excessive heat

(The Bahamas: through Sept.; Antilles & Belize: through Oct.; Guianas: through Nov.)



DRM:

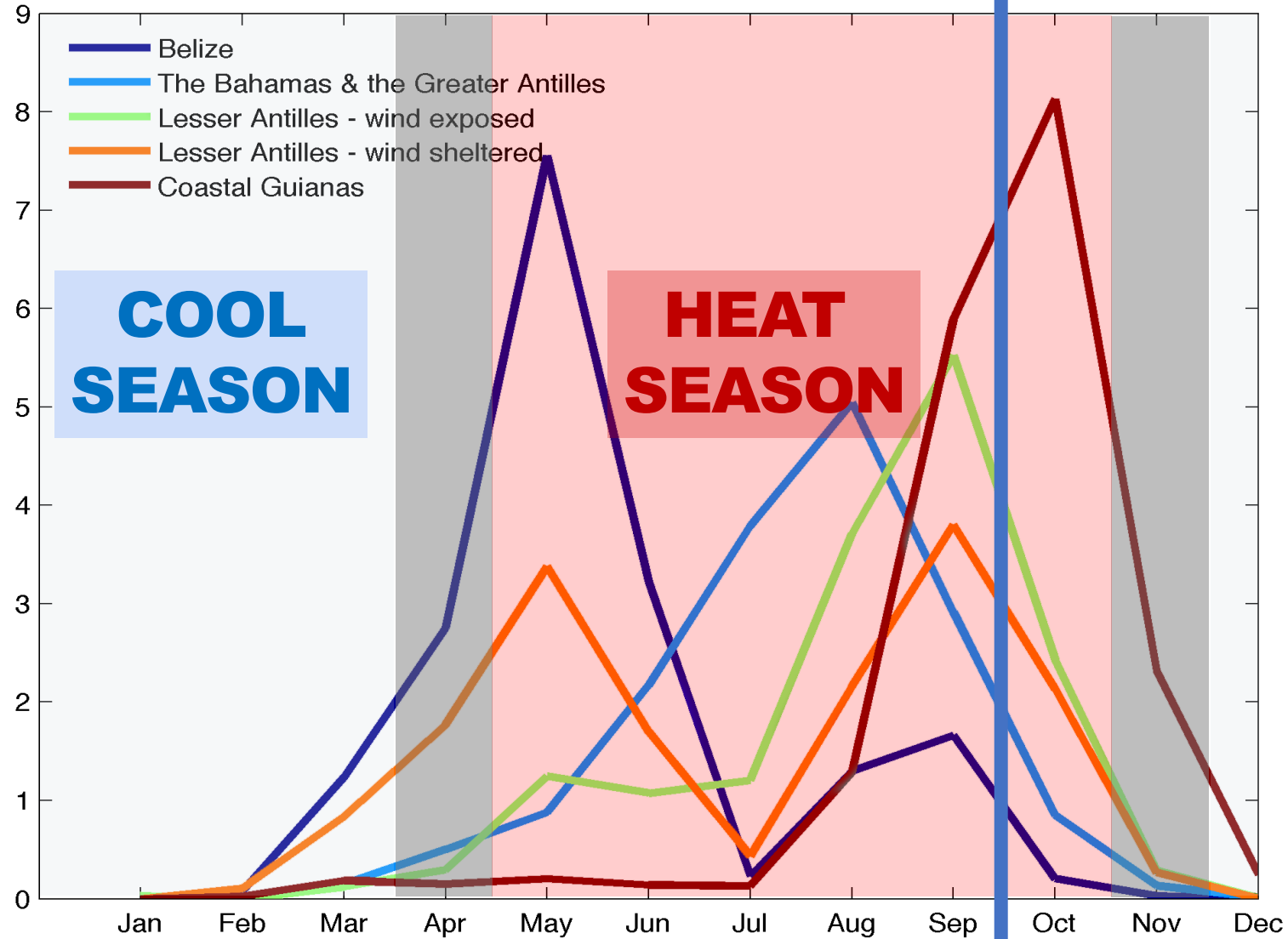
- **Risk:** *potentially* increased mortality and increased need for cooling strategies immediately post disaster (e.g. intense heat after passage of tropical cyclone); increased wildfire potential (if fuel stock is dry)
- **Operations:** *likely* reduced productivity of warehouse staff if unprotected



Child care and education:

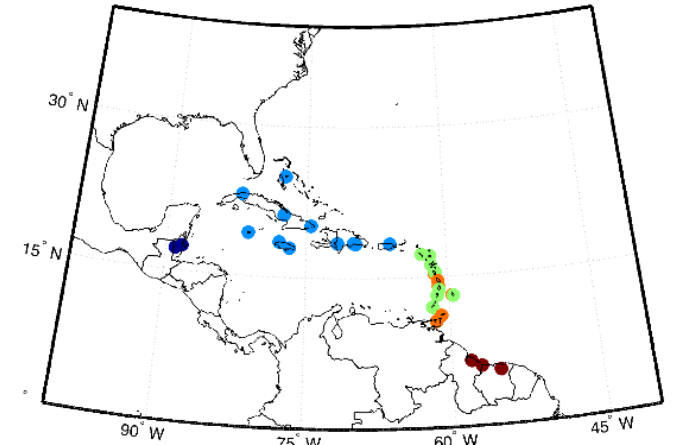
- **Learning:** *likely* reduced productivity and reduced learning ability of students through the end of the Heat Season
- **Child Protection:** *potential* increase in aggression during *possibly* prolonged heatwaves

Number of days per month
spent in hot spells

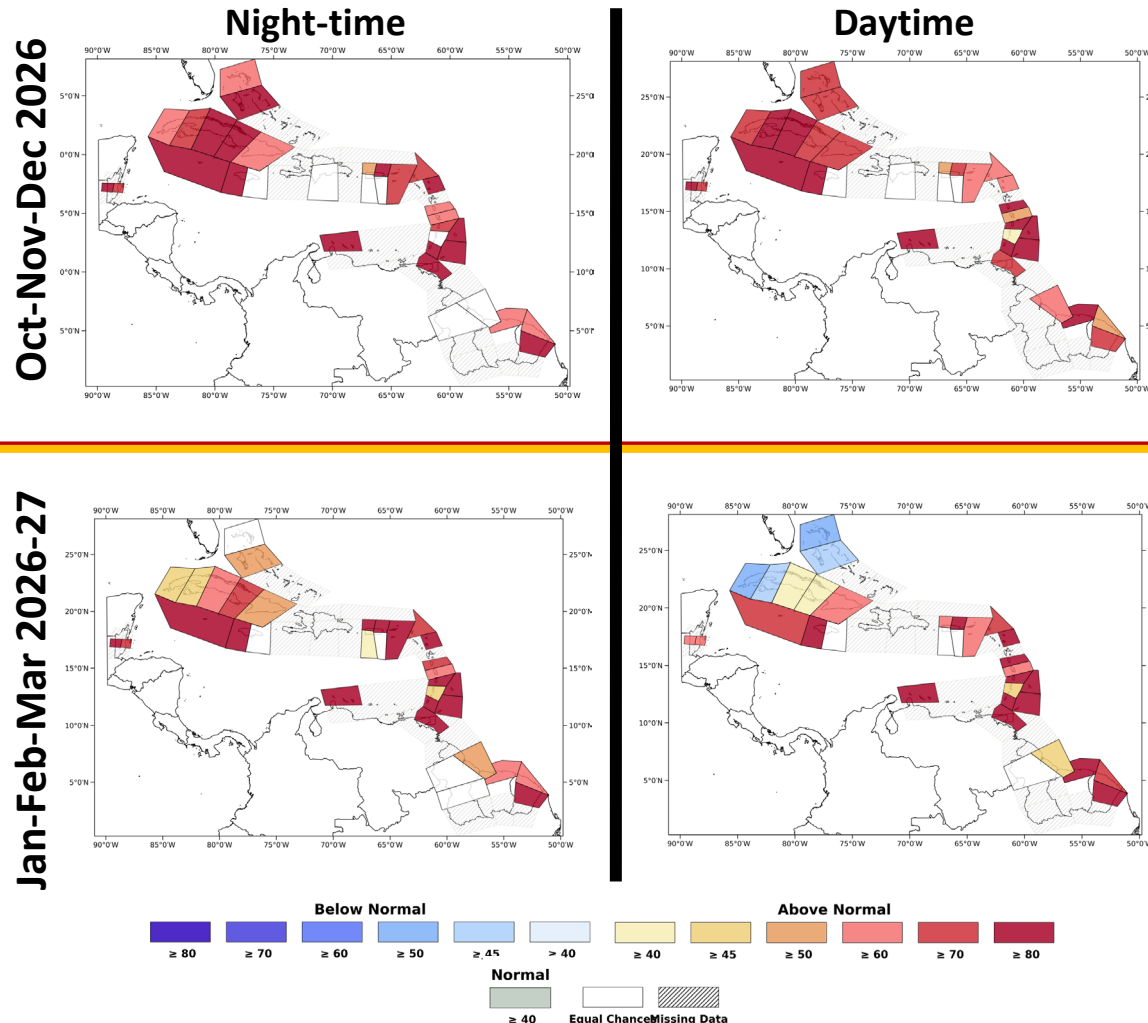


TODAY
(late-September)

SUB-REGIONS



Overall, how hot will the next three to six months be?



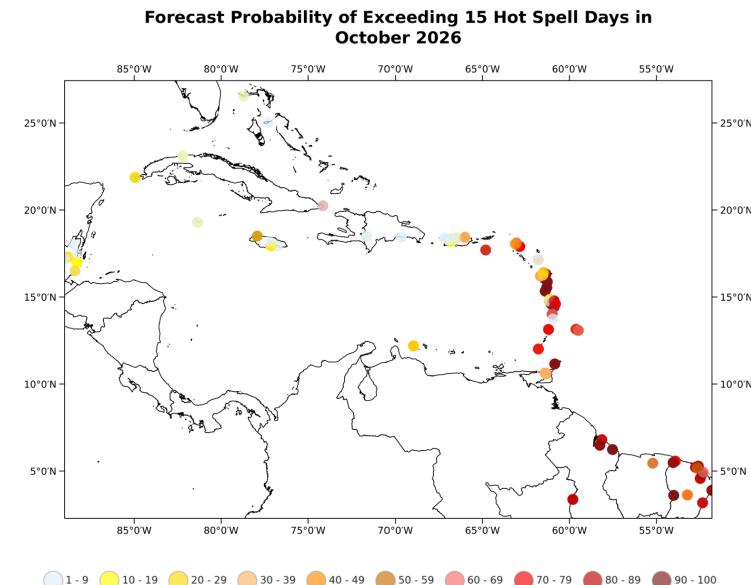
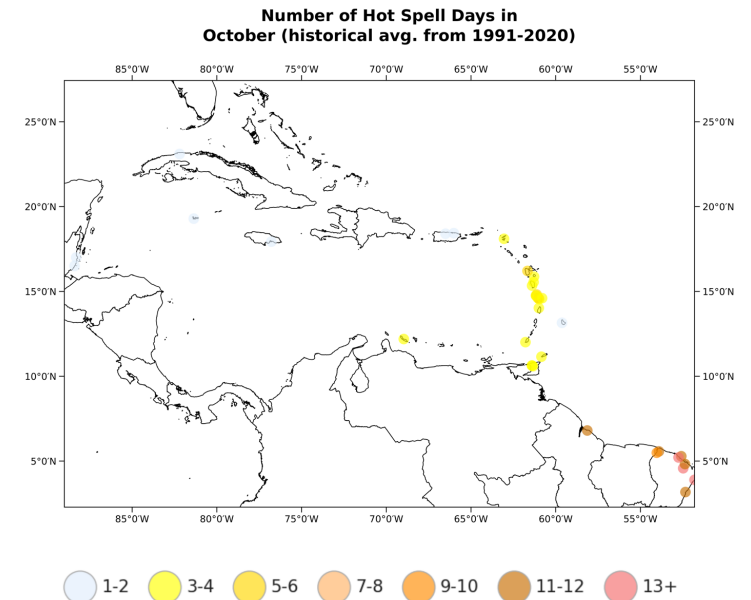
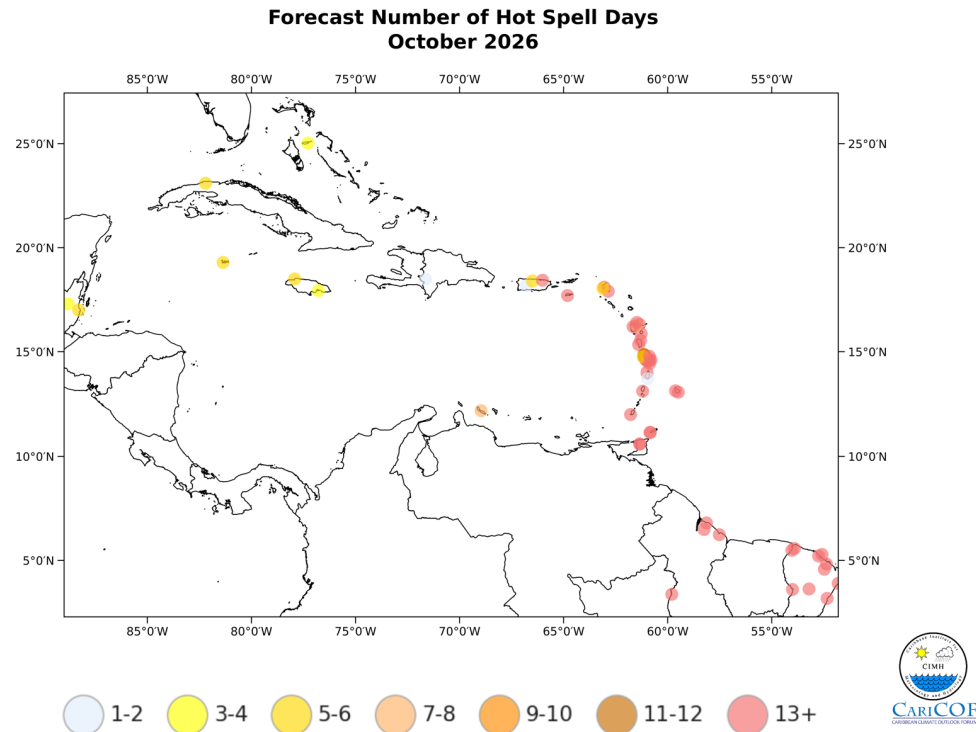
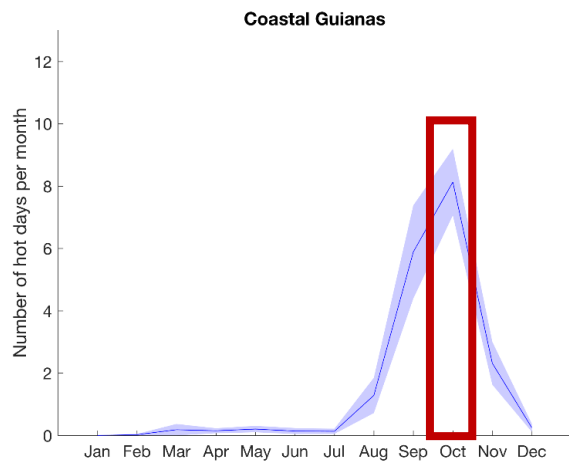
FORECAST:

1. October to December 2026 is forecast to *likely* be at least as warm as usual, with intense night-time and daytime heat still *possible* in October (in the Guianas: October and *possible* in November).
2. The Cool Season is set to start in December, with a low chance of extreme heat during December to February, but the season as a whole will *likely* be at least as warm as usual.
3. Night-time temperature will likely be the usual or lower in The Northern and Northwest Bahamas, as well as Western Cuba from January to March next year.

IMPLICATIONS:

- A few episodes of excessive heat exposure leading to significant heat stress in the vulnerable population, poultry & small livestock because of high temperature & humidity, esp. in the Guianas.
- *Possibility* of hot spells through October (November in the Guianas) and again in March 2027 in Belize, Cuba & Trinidad.

How many days spent in hot spells to expect for October 2026?



USUALLY: 9-14 hot-spell days in the Guianas, 3-6 hot-spell days in ABC Islands, Lesser Antilles; very few hot-spell days elsewhere.

FORECAST: *Strong* increase in hot-spells across the region with >80% chance for 15 or more hot-spell days in the Guianas and >50% chance in most locations in the Lesser Antilles, but 3-9 hot-spell days further west.



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