

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DROUGHT OUTLOOK

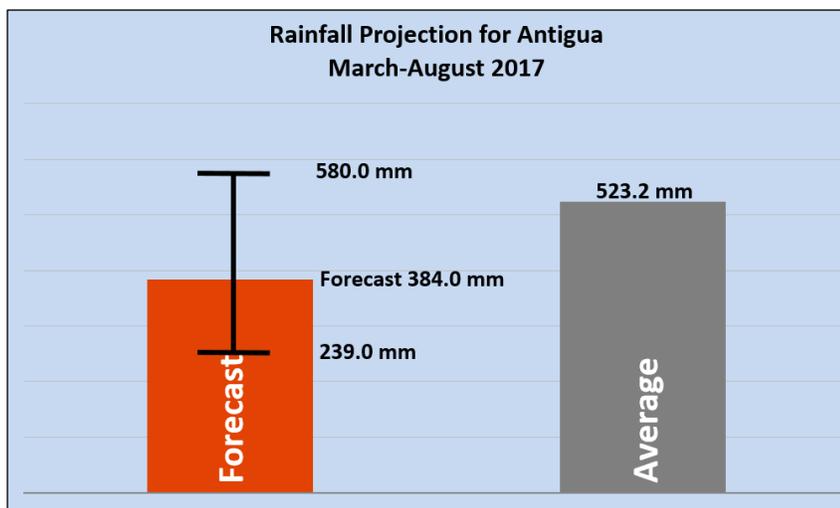


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...Moderate drought or worse evolving...drought warnings in effect...

Based upon rainfall that has already fallen and rainfall forecast predicated on sea surface temperatures across the tropics, the following are being projected for Antigua with respect to droughts, particularly meteorological droughts of **moderate or worse intensity**. Drought warnings are in effect for the medium and long term and is possible for the short term.

Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) Based (Rainfall) Projections



Short Term – Six Months

March to August 2017

Based on the rainfall experienced March and April 2017 (130.3 mm or 5.13 in) and the outlook for May to August, a **moderate drought or worse is possible** over the March-August (MA) 2017 period; hence, a **drought watch** is in effect for MA. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 45%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for MA is around **384.0 mm** (15.1 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range

239.0 to 580.0 mm (9.4 to 22.8 in), which is centred **below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 523.2 mm (20.6 in).

Medium Term – Nine Months

January to September 2017

Based on the rainfall experienced January to April 2017 (212.6 mm or 8.37 in) and the outlook for January to September, a **moderate or worse drought is evolving** over the January-September (JS) 2017 period; hence, a **drought warning is in effect** for JS. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 55%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for JS is around **582.0 mm** (22.9 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 373.0 to 858.0 mm (14.7 to 33.8 in), which is centred **below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 792.5 mm (31.2 in).

Long Term – One Year

December 2016 to November 2017

Based on the rainfall experienced December 2016 to April 2017 (309.9 mm or 12.2 in) and the outlook for May to November, a **moderate drought or worse is evolving** over the December 2016-November 2017 (DN) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for DN. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 50%. Further, the

best forecast of rainfall accumulation for DN is around **950.0 mm** (25.9 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 659.0 to 1317.0 mm (25.9 to 51.9 in), which is centred **well below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 1206.5 mm (47.5 in).

Further, the projected rainfall total for 2017 is likely to be below normal. The rainfall accumulation is projected to be around **930 mm** (36.6 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 630.0 to 1315.0 mm (24.8 to 51.8 in). The 1981-2010 normal is 1205.5 mm (47.46 in).

Related Products

More outlooks: [June 2017](#), [June-August 2017](#), [September-November 2017](#), [June-November 2017](#)

Recently observed: [Rainfall](#), [Temperature](#)

Definition

Drought watch: An announcement that a **moderate drought or worse (MD/+)** is possible or has a probability of 35-49% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, the implementation of management plans and residents to keep updated.](#)

Drought warning: An announcement that a **MD/+** is evolving or has a probability of 50-82% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, maximized water conservation and efficiency measures.](#)

Drought emergency: An announcement that a **MD/+** is evolving or has a probability of over 82% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, enforcement of water restrictions.](#)

The next outlook will be issued by July 3.

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