

Dry Season Statement for Antigua - January to June 2015



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...Well below normal rainfall and normal temperature...

Rainfall

The 2015 dry season is the third driest on record. The period January-June 2015 only had 161.3 mm (6.35 in) of rainfall, the lowest since 2001, when 130 mm (5.12 in) was measured. Only 37% of what is normal fell. The wettest month for the period was February with near normal rainfall of 37.3 mm (1.47 in), and the driest months were March and June with 20.8 mm (0.82 in) of rainfall, both below normal. The normal dry season rainfall total is 434.6 mm (17.11 in), accounting for 36% of the annual total.

Temperature

The temperature was normal but the highest since 2010 with the average at the airport being 26.3 °C (79.3 °F). The warmest month for the period was June with a below normal temperature of 27.7 °C (81.9 °F), and the coldest months were January and March with 25.5 °C (77.9 °F), both near normal. The normal dry season temperature is 26.3 °C (79.3 °F).

The main causes for the below normal rainfall were the Saharan dust, cool sea surface

temperatures, mainly across the tropical north Atlantic caused by a positive north Atlantic oscillation (higher than normal sea level pressure) and to a lesser extent El Nino.

Definition

The following definitions are being used based on the 1981 to 2010 datasets:

- **Well Below normal:** Total or average in the lowest 10% of the dataset
- **Below Normal:** Total or average in the lowest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Near Normal:** Total or average in the middle 33.3% of the data
- **Above Normal:** Total or average in the highest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Well Above Normal:** Total or average in the highest 10% of the dataset
- **Rainfall:** Island average, based on rainfall at the airport and Green Castle

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