

Temperature Statement for Antigua – December 2010

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December 2010 is among the top 10 coldest...2010 is among the top 10 warmest

The island experienced below normal temperature during December; the mean daily temperature was 25.3°C. Further, this December has tied with December 2008 for the sixth coldest December on record. December 2010 also tied 2008 for the coldest December since 1985. There was no heat or cold waves during December. Meanwhile, the temperature for 2010 was above normal, tied with 1999, 1987 and 1980 for the sixth highest on record and the highest since 2002, when 27.1°C was measured. See below for the top 10 coldest Decembers and the top 10 warmest years.

Based on various models, trends, climatology and subjective input, near normal temperature is mostly likely for the month of January and the period January to March. See table 1 for the temperature values for the past 12 months.

Period	Temperature (°C)			Temperature (°C) Record (1971 – 2010)				
Previous Month(s)	Actual	Normal 1981 - 2010	Anomaly (1981 – 2010)	Description	Max	Year	Min	Year
1(Dec)	25.3	25.9	- 0.6	Below normal	27.3	1997	24.7	1976
3(Oct – Dec)	26.3	26.7	- 0.4	Below normal	27.9	1997	25.8	1974
12(Jan – Dec)	27.0	26.9	+ 0.1	Above normal	27.8	1998	26.0	1976

Table 1: Temperature (°C) over the past 12 months.

Top 10 Coldest Decembers:

- 1 24.7°C or 76.5°F in 1976
- 2 24.8°C or 76.6°F in 1983
- 3 24.9°C or 76.8°F in 1974
- 3 24.9°C or 76.8°F in 1972
- 5 25.1°C or 77.2°F in 1985
- 6 25.3°C or 77.5°F in 2010
- 6 25.3°C or 77.5°F in 2008
- 8 25.4°C or 77.7°F in 1977
- 8 25.4°C or 77.7°F in 1973
- 10 25.5°C or 77.9°F in 2004
- 10 25.5°C or 77.9°F in 1989
- 10 25.5°C or 77.9°F in 1971

Top 10 Warmest Years:

- 1 27.8°C or 82.0°F in 1998
- 2 27.5°C or 81.5°F in 1997
- 3 27.4°C or 81.3°F in 1995
- 4 27.2°C or 81.0°F in 2001
- 5 27.1°C or 80.8°F in 2002
- 5 27.1°C or 80.8°F in 1996
- 7 27.0°C or 80.6°F in 2010
- 7 27.0°C or 80.6°F in 1999
- 7 27.0°C or 80.6°F in 1987
- 10 26.9°C or 80.4°F in 2007
- 10 26.9°C or 80.4°F in 2005
- 10 26.9°C or 80.4°F in 2003 (1990, 1988, 1981)

Temperature Description

The following definitions are being used in the description of Temperature:

- **Well Below normal:** Temperature values in the lowest 10% of the historical data
- **Below Normal:** Temperature values in the lowest 30% of the historical data, but not in the lowest 10%
- **Near Normal:** Temperature values in the middle 40% of the historical data
- **Above Normal:** Temperature values in the highest 30% of the historical data, but not the highest 10%
- **Well Above Normal:** Temperature values in the highest 10% of the historical data
- **Heat Wave:** At least 6 consecutive days with the maximum temperature in the top 10% of the data.
- **Cold Wave:** At least 6 consecutive days with the minimum temperature in the lowest 10% of the data.

This statement is most valid for areas surrounding the V. C. Bird International Airport.

Disclaimer

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Note: The issuing of a formal temperature statement by the Antigua and Barbuda Met Service is not to be taken to mean that there are unprecedented temperature values. Rather, the Met Service in harmony with its mission has seen the need to provide this statement to inform the public regarding the temperature being experienced in Antigua and Barbuda.