



Temperature Statement for Antigua – December 2011

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Below normal temperature for December

The island experienced below normal temperature during December with a mean daily temperature of 25.3°C. This December has tied with 2008 and 2010 for the coldest December since 1984 and the sixth coldest on record. The warmest day was December 1 with 26.5°C, and the coldest day was December 3 with 24.1°C. There was no heat or cold wave during the month; however, December 13 and 14 had well below normal minimum temperatures. Further, the temperature for October to December (OND), was also below normal. Meanwhile, the temperature for 2011 was also below normal, tied with five other years for the eighth lowest on record and the lowest since 2008, when 26.4°C was measured. The coolest years on record are 1976 and 1974 with 26.1°C, while the warmest is 1998 with 27.8°C. See below for more.

Based on various models, trends, climatology and subjective input, the temperature is mostly likely going to be near normal for January and below normal for JFM.

Period	Temperature (°C)			Description (1981 – 2010)	Temperature (°C) Record (1971 – 2011)			
	Actual	Normal (1981 – 2010)	Anomaly (1981 – 2010)		Max	Year	Min	Year
1(Dec)	25.3	25.9	- 0.6	Below normal	27.3	1997	24.7	1976
3(Oct – Dec)	26.4	26.7	- 0.3	Below normal	27.9	1997	25.8	1974
12(Jan – Dec)	26.5	26.9	- 0.4	Below normal	27.8	1998	26.1	'74, '76

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

Temperature Description

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

- **Well Below normal:** Temperature values in the lowest 10% of the dataset
- **Below Normal:** Temperature values in the lowest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Near Normal:** Temperature values in the middle 33.3% of the dataset
- **Above Normal:** Temperature values in the highest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Well Above Normal:** Temperature values in the highest 10% of the dataset
- **Heat Wave:** At least 6 consecutive days with the maximum temperature in the top 10% of the dataset.
- **Cold Wave:** At least 6 consecutive days with the minimum temperature in the lowest 10% of the dataset.

This statement is most valid for the V. C. Bird International Airport and surroundings.

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.