



Temperature Statement for Antigua – March 2011

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Below normal temperature for March...the ninth coldest on record...

The island experienced below normal temperature during March; the mean daily temperature was 25.1°C. This tied with 1975 for the 10th coldest March on record. There was no heat or cold waves during the month. The warmest day was March 25 with 26.4°C, and the coldest days were March 2 and 3 with 23.3°C. Further, the temperature for January to March (JFM) was near normal, 25.2°C. Based on various models, trends, climatology and subjective input, below normal temperature is mostly likely for March and near normal temperature is most likely for AMJ. See table 1 below for the temperature information for the past 3 months.

Period	Temperature (°C)			Description	Temperature (°C) Record (1971 – 2010)			
	Actual	Normal (1981 – 2010)	Anomaly (1981 – 2010)		Max	Year	Min	Year
1(March)	25.1	25.6	- 0.5	Below normal	26.9	2010	24.0	1976
3(Jan – Mar)	25.2	25.4	- 0.2	Near normal	26.3	1998	23.9	1976

Table 1: Temperature (°C) over the past 3 months.

Top 10 Coldest Marches:

1	24.0°C in 1976	7	25.0°C in 1989
2	24.6°C in 2009	7	25.0°C in 1989
3	24.8°C in 2000	9	25.1°C in 1975
3	24.8°C in 1985	9	25.1°C in 1975
5	24.9°C in 2008	10	25.2°C in 1982
5	24.9°C in 1972	10	25.2°C in 1979

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.