

Temperature Statement for Antigua - February 2016



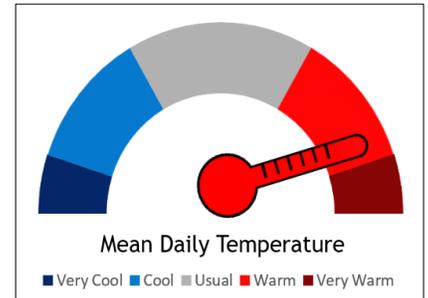
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...Record high night-time temperature...

Statement

February 2016, at the V. C. Bird International Airport (VCBIA), now has the record highest mean night-time temperature, for the said month, as expressed by the mean daily minimum temperature (mean minimum). The mean minimum of 23.4 °C (74.1 °F) is the record highest in a series dating back to 1969. It's only the fifth time that the mean minimum for the month has exceeded 23.0 °C (73.4 °F) and the fourth in as many Februaries. A record number of warm nights was also observed at VCBIA; the 15 warm nights observed obliterated the previous record for the month by 5. Meanwhile, the number of warm days was below normal, totalling only two. Overall, the VCBIA mean temperature for February of 25.6 °C (78.1 °F) was near record high. It tied for the fourth warmest February with that of 2015, 2007, 2003, 1997, and 1995. The warmest day (24 hours ending 8 am) was February 6 with 26.4 °C (79.5 °F), while the coolest day was February 4 with 23.1 °C (73.6 °F).



Winter 2015/2016 (December-February) experienced above normal temperature. The mean temperature of 25.8 °C (78.4 °F), was the fourth highest on record, tying with 2009/2010, 2002/2003, and 1998/1999. Meanwhile, for the year ending February, the temperature was near normal (Table 1).

Based on our latest analyses, higher than usual temperature is forecast for the next **six months**.

Period	Temperature (°C)			Description (1981 – 2010)	Temperature (°C) Record (1971 – 2016)			
	Actual	Normal (1981 – 2010)	Anomaly (1981 – 2010)		Max	Year	Min	Year
1(Feb)	25.6	25.2	+0.4	Above normal	26.0	1998	23.9	1976
3(Dec-Feb)	25.8	25.5	+0.3	Above normal	26.5	1997	24.1	1975
12(Mar-Feb)	26.9	26.9	0.0	Near normal	27.6	1998	26.0	1973

Table 1: Temperature (°C) over the past 12 months at VCBIA. Most periods have had near normal temperature.

Temperature Description

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

- **Well below/much cooler than normal/usual:** Temperature values in the lowest 10% of the dataset
- **Below normal/cooler than normal/usual:** Temperature values in the lowest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Near normal/usual:** Temperature values in the middle 33.3% of the dataset
- **Above/warmer than normal/usual:** Temperature values in the highest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Well above/much warmer than normal/usual:** 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.