



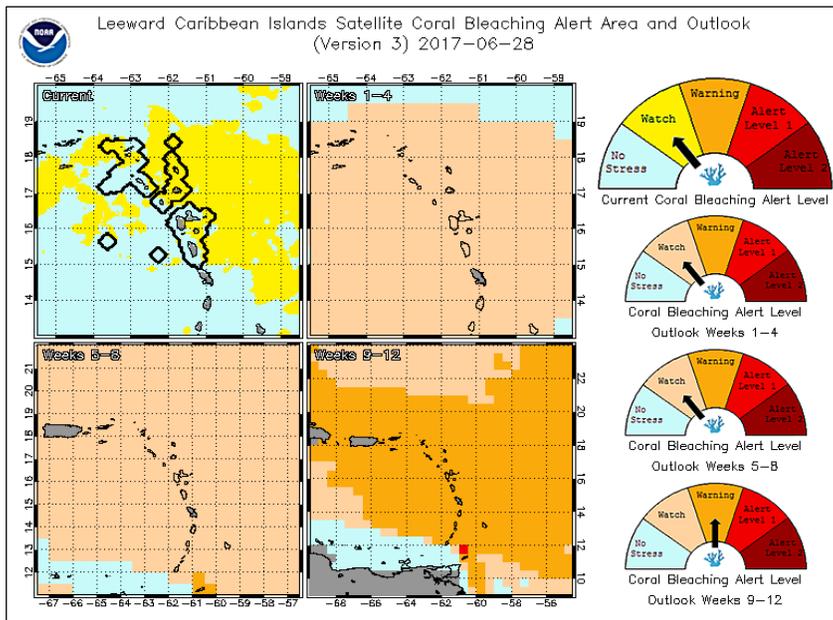
# ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA CORAL REEF WATCH



...Widespread bleaching and coral death are possible...

## Situation and forecast

Preliminary data indicate that sea surface temperature (SST) around Antigua and Barbuda is above normal for June. This would make the 22<sup>th</sup> consecutive month of higher than normal SST for the area. The mean SST is around 28.0 °C (82.4 °F). Nevertheless, this is below the **bleaching threshold** of 29.3 °C (84.7 °F), which is expected for this time of year. Notwithstanding, there is low-level thermal stress due to SST reaching the max monthly mean at times; hence, a coral bleaching watch is in effect. The SST has warmed by around 0.4 °C (0.72 °F) since last month. The record high SST for June is 29.1 °C (84.4 °F), observed in 2005, based on NOAA's ERSTv4.



A lot of thermal stress is expected over of the period **July-October**; hence, **widespread bleaching and coral death** are possible, as **alert level 2 stress** is possible (see update).

## The rest of the region

The thermal stress levels across the Caribbean, as of **June 29, 2017**, is minimal. Like Antigua and Barbuda, alert level 2 stress is possible for most of the region: **July to October 2017** (See also **Caribbean Coral Reef Watch**).

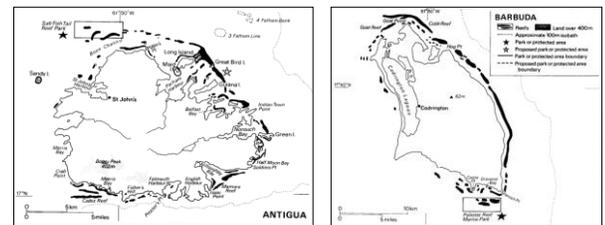
## Anchor awareness



Did you know that anchors can be very devastating to coral reefs and associated habits? [Read more about this issue and see how you can help...](#)

## Why should we care?

**Coral reefs** are especially important given their immeasurable contribution to tourism, fisheries, leisure and disaster risk reduction. Click on the maps below to see the location of our coral reefs:



## Related resources:

- [Recent 30-day SST anomaly animation](#)
- [Education and outreach](#)
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[NOAA Coral Reef Watch methodology](#)  
For more information, contact:  
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