



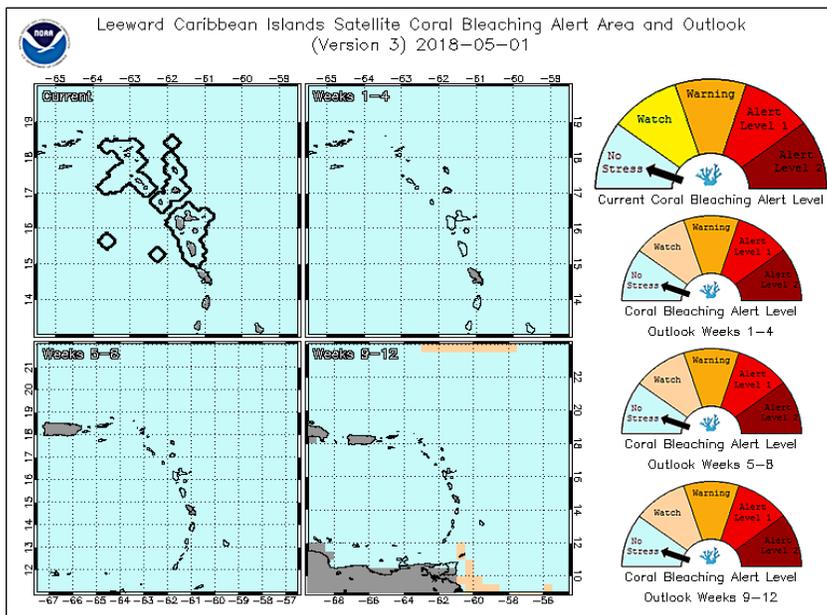
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA CORAL REEF WATCH



Above normal temperature ... no thermal stress on corals

Situation and forecast

Preliminary data indicate that sea surface temperature (SST) around Antigua and Barbuda was above normal for April. If this is confirmed, it would be the 32nd consecutive month of above normal SST for the area, based on the climate period 1981-2010. The mean SST for the month was around 27.0 °C (80.6 °F). However, this is well below the **bleaching threshold** of 29.3 °C (84.7 °F), as is expected for this time of the year. Hence, no stress for corals. Overall, the SST has increase by 0.3 °C (0.54 °F) since last month – March, which is normal. The record high SST for April is 27.8 °C (82.0 °F), observed in 2010, based on NOAA's **ERSSTv4**.



A watch may be required for the latter part of the forecast period - **May-August** as low-level **thermal stress** is likely ([see update](#)).

The rest of the region

There is **low-level of heat stress** or watch conditions being experienced across some coastal areas of the **Colombian and Yucatan Basins**; elsewhere, there is no stress. Most coastal areas are likely to experience low-level heat stress by the end of the period **May-August**; hence much of the area could go under a watch, by then. See **Caribbean Coral Reef Watch** for more.

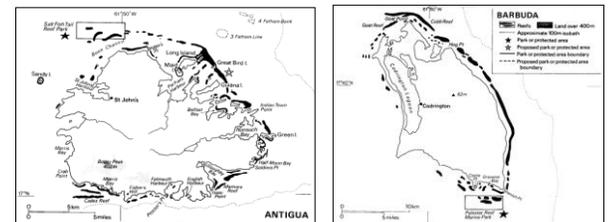
Restoring hurricane-damaged coral reefs



Destruction from hurricanes is more pervasive than meets the eyes. The very active 2017 hurricane season not only damaged many systems above water but also underwater i.e. corals reefs. Happily, repairs are underway. [Read more...](#)

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](#)
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[NOAA Coral Reef Watch methodology](#)

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