

## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DROUGHT OUTLOOK

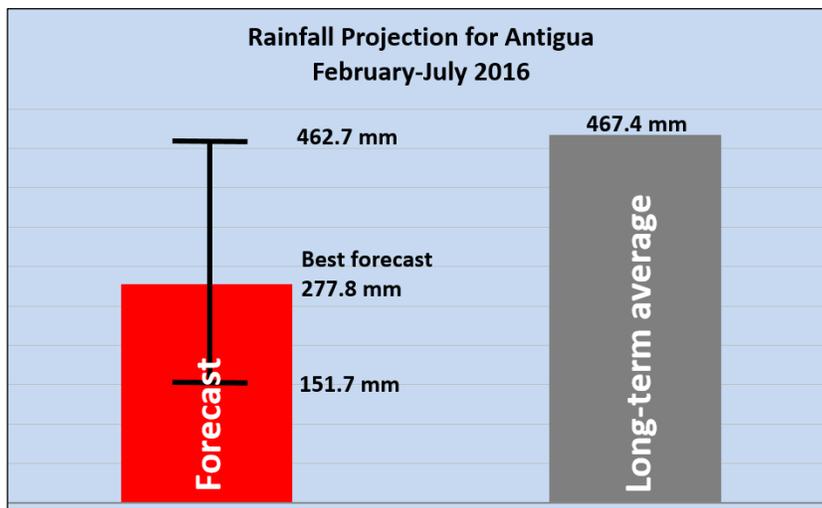


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**...Serious drought evolving...drought warnings remain in effect...**

Based upon rainfall that has already fallen and rainfall forecast predicated on sea surface temperatures across the tropics, the following are being projected for Antigua with respect to droughts, particularly those of **moderate or worse intensity**. *The existing droughts (meteorological, agricultural, hydrological and socioeconomic) are expected to continue into the second half of 2016.*

### Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) Based (Rainfall) Projections



#### Short Term – Six Months

##### *February to July 2016*

Based on the rainfall measured for February and March 2016 (76.2 mm or 3.00 in) and the outlook for April to July, a **moderate drought or worse is evolving** over the February-July 2016 (FJ) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for the period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 65%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for FJ is around **277.8 mm** (10.9 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 151.7 to

462.7 mm (6.0 to 18.2 in), which is centred **well below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 467.4 mm (18.4 in). Rainfall for FJ will be, at best, near normal rainfall, and at worst, near record low.

#### Medium Term – Nine Months

##### *December 2015 to August 2016*

Based on the rainfall measured for December 2015 to March 2016 (170.9 mm or 6.73 in) and the outlook for April to July, a **serious drought or worse is evolving** over the December 2015-August 2016 (DA) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for DA. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 76%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for DA is around **457.5 mm** (18.0 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 313.6 to 642.0 mm (12.3 to 25.3 in), which is centred **well below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 749.3 mm (29.5 in). Rainfall for DA will be, at best, near normal, and at worst, record low.

#### Long Term – One Year

##### *November 2015 to October 2016*

Based on the rainfall measured for November 2015 to March 2016 (276.6 mm or 10.89 in) and the outlook for April to October, a **serious drought or worse is evolving** over the November 2015-October 2016 (NO) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for NO. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 72%. Further, the

best forecast of rainfall accumulation for NO is around **801.6 mm** (31.6 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 569.8 to 1091.6 mm (22.4 to 43.0 in), which is centred **well below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 1206.5 mm (47.5 in). Rainfall for NO will be, at best, near normal, and at worst, record low.

## Related Products

More outlooks: [May 2016](#), [May-July 2016](#), [August-October 2016](#), [May-October 2016](#)

Recently observed: [Rainfall](#), [Temperature](#)

## Definition

Drought watch: An announcement that a **moderate drought or worse (MD/+)** is possible or has a probability of 35-49% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, the implementation of management plans and residents to keep updated.](#)

Drought warning: An announcement that a **MD/+** is evolving or has a probability of 50-82% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, maximized water conservation and efficiency measures.](#)

Drought emergency: An announcement that a **MD/+** is evolving or has a probability of over 82% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, enforcement of water restrictions.](#)

The next outlook will be issued around June 3.

## Disclaimer

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